

Faith and the Revelation of God
Job 1-2
January 19-20, 2019

Summary and Goal

Job 1 and 2 introduces us to Job who lived during the early time of Patriarch Era. Job is the oldest book in the bible, so many scholars believe that Job's knowledge of God is derived from the Creation Era. Our goal is to study God's character and understand Job's faithfulness toward God

Objectives

To see the impact of Job on God's Kingdom. We will look at Job's life from these perspectives

- Character of Job
- Challenges for Job
- Confession of Job

Main Passage

Job 1-2

Session in Sentence

Our faith must be based on truth. Creation provides us with truth about God and His character. It is our responsibility to become more intimate with this truth in our daily life by embracing His life through Kingdom building. We see this evidenced in Job's life.

Kingdom Connection

I believe that there are three Kingdom Connections in our scriptures today. 1) The first one highlights Job's faith and his obedience. Job's faith proclaims the words that Jesus spoke in Matthew 7:24:

Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2) The second connection is made when Satan approaches God after roaming the earth with the intent of accusing the man. Satan's action reminds us of God's proclamation that there would be enmity between "your seed and woman's seed". God spoke this during the Creation Era in Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her seed;
He shall bruise you on the head,

And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

3) The third connection is a revelation of the true war between Satan’s and God’s Kingdom. Ephesians 6:12 tells us

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.”

Although we may see or experience the destruction associated with this war in the natural realm or it may appear that the enemy is winning, we must remember that the Kingdom of God is eternal and stands on Jesus’ words in Matthew 16:15-18

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it

Missional Application

No matter what difficulties we face, God is in control. He is in control of the trials we face and the outcome of the trial. The trials are not designed to make life difficult but to make us in Christ image as we prepare for the coming of His Kingdom. We want to make the same statement that Job made in Job 42:5

I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear;

But now my eye sees You;

The Character of Job

Scripture - Job 1:1-5

Job 1: 1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil. 2 Seven sons and three daughters were born to him. 3 His possessions also were 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 female donkeys, and very many servants; and that man was the greatest of all the men of the east. 4 His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 When the days of feasting had completed their cycle, Job would send and consecrate them, rising up early in the morning and offering burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually.

According to our scripture, Job lived in the land of Uz. As we look at information about the location of Uz we can find several conclusions. During the lifetime of Job, Uz seems to have initially occupied the north-western part of Arabia, probably near the shores of the Gulf of Aqaba. Over the years, the expression, "land of Uz" was applied to a broader area of land to the south and east of Israel including Edom, Moab, and Ammon. Job was blessed in the land of Uz with sheep, oxen, camels and female donkeys.

They are several truths found about God in His creation, the land of Uz. We can see this principle of seeing God in His creation expressed in Romans 1:20:

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power, and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

In addition to God's blessings, Job's relationship with God was a priority. He continuously followed the law and offered burnt offerings for his children in case they had sinned or cursed God.

Let's take a few minutes and explore some of the truths that fueled Job's faith?

- God is the creator of the universe –
Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Although there are various conclusions about where Uz is located, it was a part of creation that spoke to Job.
- God's is our Redeemer –
Job 19:25 - As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at last He will take His stand on the earth.
- His word can be trusted –

Isaiah 55:11 - So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth;
It will not return to Me empty,
Without accomplishing what I desire,
And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

- God's Kingdom is Everlasting –

Psalm 45:6 - Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of uprightness is the scepter about God in his heart and he kept them alive in his family by following the instructions given in Deuteronomy 6:6-8

Deut. 6: 6 These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The Challenges for Job

Scripture - Job 1:6-8

Job 1: 6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. 7 The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." 8 The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."

Job is called to serve as the patriarch to his family, but it was not without the enemy's challenge. Let's take a few minutes to review the conversation between Satan and God. God asked Satan where he was coming from. As a result of the enmity between Satan and man, it is no surprise to understand Satan's intent. Look at what God reveals about Satan's intent in 1 Peter 5:9

1 Peter 5: 9 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

In these verses, we are given a picture of the true war that has always existed during the various eras. Ephesians 6:12 has expressed it clearly.

Eph. 6: 12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."

This is the same challenge we face in our walk with Christ. In the midst of the challenge, there is a great truth that surfaces and provides us with a formidable source of faith. You will notice that Satan arrives with the Sons of God and is under the authority of God. Please note that God is in control. God, our Father, has the last word.

Although we are at war against the “the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places”, you can know that God gives us the victory in Christ. Sometimes, it might look like we are losing the battle, we have to rely on the truth that has been established in our spirit to keep the battle in perspective. There was a song that I remember when I was a young girl. The name of the song is “He’s got the whole world in His hands”. Although I was not a believer, I believed that God had the whole world in His hands. The song gave me a certain amount of security which I needed from time to time. In addition to the security, I see His grace. The Holy Spirit was reaching out to me to know Him and be in relationship with Him. Although that was my theme at the time, now my confidence is coupled with the song and Revelation 12:10

Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.”

The Confession of Job

When you think it couldn’t get worse; it gets worse.

Death and Devastation

The reports to Job were coming one right after another: (read Job 1: 13-19, for background)

1. The Sabeans attacked his sons and daughters while they were eating and drinking and took them. They also slew the servants with the edge of the sword,
2. The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them
3. The Chaldeans formed three bands and made a raid on the camels and took them and slew the servants with the edge of the sword
4. Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, and behold, a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people and they died,

Scripture – Job 1:20-22

Job 1: 20 Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped. 21 He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” 22 Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God.

"Anybody can say, 'The Lord gave' or 'The Lord hath taken away'; but it takes real faith to say in the midst of sorrow and suffering, 'Blessed be the name of the Lord.'"----Warren Weirsbe

After receiving these reports, Job mournfully tore his robe, shaved his head but he also worshipped God. He reminded himself that God was in control as he proclaimed, “The Lord gives and the Lord takes away” He blessed the name of the Lord.

You would think that this was the end of the trial, but Satan appears before God again in Chapter 2 and ask for permission to attack his body. God gives Satan permission to touch his body but is told to spare his life.

Job 2: 7 Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. 8 And he took a potsherd to scrape himself while he was sitting among the ashes.

At this time, Job’s wife tells him to curse God and die; Job was steadfast in his faithfulness towards God. He responded:

Job 2:10 “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips

Application

We have studied a man who knew God through Creation because scholars believe that the book of Job was the first book written. Creation was his only reference to know God.

Job learned that God was holy, and man was sinful. To ensure that he or his family did not sin or curse God, he would make offerings to be in right relationship with God.

We are ending our class today looking at the spiritual war that Job is engaged in and how he maintained his integrity.

Did you notice that God said that Job did not sin with his lips (Job 2:10) That caught my attention because sometimes, I have kept by lips from sinning by not saying anything, but my heart is a different entity?

How about you? Perhaps you have heard that story where the father tells the little girl to sit down. The little girl sits down but she said in a low voice - “I am sitting down on the outside, but I am standing up on the inside” This story reminds me how we can serve God with our lips only.

As you read through the book of Job in your daily reading this week, you will find that he has a tough time with the trial that he is in. I can’t say that I blame him. Job gets to the point where he hates his birthday. Look at Job 3:3-4

Job 3: 3 “Let the day perish on which I was to be born, And the night which said,
'A boy is conceived.' 4 “May that day be darkness; Let not God above care for it,
Nor light shine on it.

Let's not give up on Job. As you complete your daily reading, you will see that God doesn't answer his prayer to forget his birthday. Instead, God reveals Himself in a way that Job will see that he was born to be a part of God's Kingdom and his birthday is very important to God!

Because ultimately the song I learned as a little girl, holds true today, “He's got the whole world in His hands.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEkXzi19Crk>