

Job

Breakdown

- The writer of Job is unknown, but descriptions in the book indicate the events taking place during the time of the Patriarchs, approximately 2100 to 1900 B.C.
- Job was not an Israelite but was of the “people of the East” which means he was probably an Arab, Edomite, or from another tribe from that area. This is important for us to know because although we view Job as a man of wisdom and righteousness, he was not one of God’s chosen people and probably didn’t get his understanding of God from Hebrew tradition. That might explain why Job and his friends had some really skewed views of God.

Main Points

- Great suffering came to Job causing him to question God’s love and authority. Job accused God, and his friends defended God, but all of them were viewing God as the rewarder or punisher of Job’s actions. The New Testament teaches us a different view of God: God loves us with a love that operates apart from and beyond questions of merit. *“God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners”* (Romans 5:8).
- Job points us to Jesus, the Savior, who answers the question of suffering for us. He didn’t shy away from suffering but took it upon Himself. He met it head on, sacrificing Himself and suffering in our place. He took our suffering, ending suffering once and for all.

Did you know?

- Apparently, Job’s sons regularly took turns hosting some pretty wild parties. What did Job do for his children after each of those parties?
- In the course of just a few hours on one fateful day, four major tragedies happened one right after the other to Job’s property and family. What all happened?
- Job’s three friends heard of all the bad things that had happened to him and went to visit him, but when they saw Job, they didn’t recognize him. What did they do?
- Job’s friends automatically assumed the worst of him. They tried to convince him that he had caused the bad situation he was in. What did they think he had done wrong?
- The first science pop quiz is found in the book of Job with questions about things that wouldn’t be proven by scientists until many years later. Who gave the quiz to Job, and did he pass or fail?
- God was angry with Job’s friends because they didn’t speak what was right about Him, so He told Job to pray for them. What did God do for Job after he prayed for them?

Further Thought

- At the beginning of the book, Satan told God he had been patrolling the earth. What was Satan looking for and what does that mean for us?
- Because Job didn’t understand why so many bad things had happened, he questioned God about it, but he didn’t turn away from God. What can we learn from Job’s example?
- Job finally repented for misunderstanding and accusing God, but he didn’t really see that he was wrong until God revealed Himself to Job. What does that teach us for our lives?