

JOB'S SECOND TEST (part one)

We will study the Book of Job as a seven-act play. We will study selective passages from each of the following seven acts.

- (Job 1-2) Act 1 Spiritual Testing
- (Job 3) Act 2 Suffering for Christ
- (Job 4-14) Act 3 First Debate of Suffering
- (Job 15-21) Act 4 Second Debate of Suffering
- (Job 22-31) Act 5 Third debate of Suffering
- (Job 32-41) Act 6 Special speeches on Suffering
- (Job 42) Act 7 Spiritual Restoration from Suffering

There are two sides to the Book of Job. There is the human suffering side and the divine blessing side. James 5:10-11 teaches these two sides to undeserved suffering of Christians.

Act 1 explains WHY and HOW Job was chosen to represent God's plan through undeserved suffering in the Angelic Conflict. Job 1:1-5 explains WHY Job was chosen and Job 1:6-2:10 explain HOW he was chosen.

Job 1:6-2:10 introduces two different tests for Job in the Angelic Conflict. The first test is recorded in Job 1:6-22 and resulted in the loss of all his possessions in life except his wife. The second test is recorded in Job 2:1-10 and resulted in the loss of all his personal health.

We will study the lesson text by the following six conversations involved in Job's Second Test (2:1-10).

- Lord to Satan Walking in world (2:1-2)
- Lord to Satan Witness of Job (2:3)
- Satan to Lord Word of Satan (2:4-5)
- Lord to Satan Whole body attacked (2:6-8)
- Wife to Job Will of wife (2:9)
- Job to Wife Will of God (2:10)

Do you remember how the first test in the Angelic Conflict ended? (Job 1:22)

Do you know how the second test ended? "In all this Job did not sin (lo chata / kal pf) with his lips." (2:10)

This lesson will study three aspects of Job's Second Test in the Angelic Conflict.

1. Acts 1 teaches us that the Book of Job is the textbook on undeserved suffering and blessing of the spiritual mature believer in the Angelic Conflict (Job 1-2).

Suffering in the believer's life can be from one of three sources.

- Undeserved suffering (Job)
- Self-induced misery (Prov.14:30; 27:4; Eph.4:17/ OMCD)
- Divine discipline (Heb.12:5-11)

2. Job's Undeserved Suffering (U/S) fell under two categories.

The first category of U/S involved possessions (details of life) (Job.1:6-22). Job lost everything but his wife. The doctrine that Job applied was "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." (1:21).

The second category of U/S involved personal health (Job 2:1-10). Job lost his entire health. The doctrine that Job applied was "Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" (Job 2:10)

Here is the point, each time Job applied pertinent bible doctrine to his circumstance. Both times, Job recognized the suffering as U/S and part of the Angelic Conflict and used the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" effectively (Eph.6:17).

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." (Matt.4:4)

3. A very important doctrinal concept is introduced in the second testing of Job (integrity).

This doctrinal concept is related to the four points of virtuous character of a spiritual mature believer recorded in 1:1 and 2:3 (blameless, upright, fearing God, and turning away from evil).

"And he still holds fast his integrity (tummah), although you incite Me against him, to ruin him without cause." (2:3b) Lord to Satan.

"Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die!" (2:9) Wife to Job

Integrity (tummah) is the spiritual mature believer's ability to bring these spiritual virtues into the application of pertinent bible doctrine to one's human experience under the most extreme stressful pressure of life.