

## Job Sermon Series (Term 2, 2021)

Let me encourage you to read through the book of Job in your own time. There's no way we could read the whole thing in Church. Simply tick off the reading as you read it (5 readings a week) and you'll make it through the whole thing. Let me encourage you also to make use of the Bible study booklets (\$5.50) for further reflection. And most importantly, let's pray that God will speak to us, and that he will work in us by his Word and Spirit, to be more like Christ!

### Sermon Passages

**2/5/2021**

*Job #1: Does anyone really love God for God? ([Job 1](#), [Job 2](#))*

**9/5/2021**

*Job #2: What of Karma? ([Job 18](#), [Job 31](#), [Ps 88](#))*

**16/5/2021**

*Job #3: Where is Wisdom? ([Job 28](#), [Matt 13:24-52](#))*

**23/5/2021**

*Job #4: A Purpose for Suffering? ([Job 33](#), [Jam 1:2-18](#), [Jam 5:7-11](#))*

**30/5/2021**

Interlude: CMS Link Missionary Visit: Kevin and Karen Flanagan.

**6/5/2021**

*Job #5: God asks the questions. ([Job 40](#), [Job 42](#))*

### Some Good Job Resources:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/help-me-teach-the-bible/christopher-ash-on-job/> (~1 hour podcast – easy to listen to)

Job – the Wisdom of the Cross, by Christopher Ash (Fat commentary)

## Reading Job

### Week 1

- Job 1
- Job 2
- Job 3
- Job 4-7
- Job 8-10

### Week 2

- Job 11-14
- Job 15-17
- Job 18-19
- Job 20-21
- Job 22-24

### Week 3

- Job 25-27
- Job 28
- Job 29-31
- Job 32-34
- Job 35-37

### Week 4

- Job 38
- Job 39
- Job 40
- Job 41
- Job 42

# JOB'S DEBATE WITH THE FRIENDS

**JOB**

**CYCLE 1**  
CHAPTERS 13-14

**CYCLE 2**  
CHAPTERS 15-21

**CYCLE 3**  
CHAPTERS 22-28

**FOCUS OF DEBATE**

- 1 IS GOD **JUST**?
- 2 DOES GOD RUN THE UNIVERSE ON THE STRICT PRINCIPLE OF **JUSTICE**?
- 3 HOW IS JOB'S SUFFERING TO BE EXPLAINED?

## BIG ASSUMPTION



**3-37**

# JOB

AN INVITATION TO TRUST GOD'S WISDOM

## JOB'S PROTEST

EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER

"WHY HAS GOD DENIED ME JUSTICE AND MADE MY LIFE BITTER?" 27:2

"GOD ATTACKS ME, TEARS ME UP IN ANGER, AND GNASHES HIS TEETH AT ME." 16:9

"HE DESTROYS THE BLAMELESS AND THE WICKED, HE MOCKS THE MASTAR OF THE INNOCENT." 9:22-23

"WHAT HOPE DO THE GODLESS HAVE WHEN GOD TAKES AWAY THEIR LIFE?" 27:8

## JOB'S LAST STATEMENT

**29-31**

- ASSERTS INNOCENCE
- DEMANDS EXPLANATION FROM GOD

"I SIGN MY DEFENSE, LET THE ALMIGHTY ANSWER ME!" (31:35)

# UNIQUE BOOK IN THE BIBLE

• SET IN "UZ," FAR AWAY FROM ISRAEL

• ALL CHARACTERS ARE NON-ISRAELITES

• THERE IS NO CLEAR HISTORICAL SETTING

**INTENTIONAL!**

**The Point** → THE AUTHOR WANTS US TO FOCUS ON THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY JOB'S SUFFERING

**38-41**

**38-39** A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE

**38-39** GOD'S JUSTICE + HUMAN DEED

**38-39** DEEPER ASSUMPTION: JOB HAS ENOUGH PERSPECTIVE TO MAKE SUCH A CLAIM

**38-39** GOD'S RESPONSE: JOB DOESN'T HAVE A UNIVERSAL VANTAGE POINT

**38-39** CONCLUSION: JOB IS NOT IN A POSITION TO ACCUSE GOD

**40A** EVIL MURDER LIES

**40A** IT'S COMPLEX, AIN'T IT?

**40B-41** BEHEMOTH LEVIATHAN

SEE ISAIAH 27:1 & PSALMS 74:13-14

SYMBOLS OF DISORDER & DANGER

GOOD ORDERED BEAUTIFUL

NOT PERFECT CHILD DANGEROUS

**QUESTION**: WHY IS THERE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD?

**RESPONSE**: WE LIVE IN AN AMAZING WORLD THAT IS NOT DESIGNED TO PREVENT SUFFERING

**42** YOU ARE UNJUST! YOU'RE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE THAT CLAIM!

**42** I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION! I INVITE YOU TO TRUST MY WISDOM!

## GOD'S RESPONSE

**1-2**

BLAMELESS, RIGHTEOUS, HONORS GOD

HAVE YOU COMBATED THE BLAMELESS, RIGHTEOUS JOB?

JOB IS ONLY RIGHTEOUS BECAUSE YOU REWARD HIM. LET HIM SUFFER, THEN SEE HOW RIGHTEOUS HE IS.

THE SATAN

SAH-TAN 77 (THEOLOGY) ACCUSOR, PROSECUTOR

WHY? BUT: WE ASSUME THE BOOK WILL ANSWER WHY GOD ALLOWS SUFFERING. IT DOESN'T...

THE REAL QUESTIONS: IS GOD JUST? DOES HE RUN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE?

JOB'S CURSE: CURSE GOD AND DIE!

ELIPHAZ: WE THOUGHT YOU WERE THE LIGHT.

BALDAD: THE LIGHT.

ZOPHAR: THE MIGHTY!

THE FRIENDS

THE BEST OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN THOUGHT

ASHES

## PROLOGUE

**3-28**

JOB IS RIGHT

ARGUMENT: I'M INNOCENT!

IMPLICATION: MY SUFFERING IS NOT DIVINE JUSTICE

CONCLUSION A: GOD DOESN'T RUN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE

OR CONCLUSION B: GOD IS UNJUST

ARGUMENT: GOD IS JUST

IMPLICATION: GOD RUNS THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE

CONCLUSION: JOB "MUST HAVE" SINNED

SEE JOB 22

**32-37**

ELIHU

ARGUMENT: GOD IS JUST

IMPLICATION: GOD RUNS THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE

CONCLUSION: SUFFERING MAY BE A WARNING TO AVOID FUTURE SIN BECAUSE IT BUILDS CHARACTER

BTW: DON'T ACCUSE GOD, NUDE!

## JOB & THE FRIENDS

**42A**

I RETRACT & I REPENT!

JOB HAS SPOKEN RIGHTLY ABOUT ME!

YOU THREE STONE WRONGLY ABOUT ME!

GOD HONORS

- JOB'S STRUGGLE
- JOB'S HONESTY
- JOB'S PRAYER

**42B** JOB'S FAMILY & FORTUNES RESTORED

14K

6K

1K

1K

## EPILOGUE