

Job Chapter 2

V: 1-2 “Again there was a day...” The sons of God, the angels are presenting themselves before the Lord and Satan is among them.

- Again the Lord asks where have you been, what have you been up to, and He gets the same response.
- As Satan moves to and fro throughout the whole earth - he’s exercising his dominion over the earth. Just as Abraham and Joshua were told that everywhere they place their foot, it’s theirs - as Satan moves about it’s his. Unwittingly Adam who initially had dominion over the earth ceded it to Satan by submitting to him as opposed to God.
- When Satan sought to tempt Jesus he offered Him the all the kingdoms of this world because they were his to offer - Jesus didn’t argue that point.

That is why: Jesus refers to Satan

John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11 “... the prince of this world...”

- Satan has been going to and fro in the earth looking for trouble to cause; just the opposite of God.
- 2 Chronicles 16:9** “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...”
- God is looking to bless, to minister to and to strengthen, Satan is not and never is.

V: 3 God again asks Satan if he’s considered His servant Job, which from the previous chapter we know that he has. Have you re-considered my servant Job?

- Notice God’s description of His servant.
- There is none like him in the earth, that means he is unique and special, a “peculiar” person; in a way that is what we are called to as well.

Deuteronomy 14:2 “For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto Himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”

- He’s still perfect and an upright, a man who fears God and avoids evil - qualities that he’s maintained in even the most difficult of circumstances.

- He's maintained his "integrity." A word that is only used 5 X's in the Bible, all of them in Job and Psalms.
 1. The quality or state of being of sound moral principle; uprightness, honesty, and sincerity.
 2. The quality or state of being complete; unbroken condition; wholeness, entirety.
- We are each born into this world incomplete and broken. We have a body and a soul, but we are lacking the most important component of life, that is the Spirit.
- When we put our faith in God, trusting Him truly - then we are born again of the Spirit and we are complete and whole.

Colossians 2:10 "And you are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power."

- We only find our completeness, our integrity in a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Maintaining his integrity, remaining complete means that he maintained his faith in God.

"3b... though thou movedst Me against him, to destroy him without cause."

- God allowed these things to take place in Job's life, seemingly without cause or without provocation from a human stand point - but all part of God's sovereign plan to use this for His glory.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

V: 4 Satan once again as always contradicts the Word of God and declares that what God has said is not so.

- He says that a man will give all that he has to keep his life, and for most men that is true, basically he's saying that every man has his price.

Jesus said:

Matthew 16:25 "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it."

- It's a choice to go against our nature, to love Jesus more. That is the real life, the truest life, the only life worth having - eternal life!

Paul said:

Philippians 3:7-8 “⁷But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.”

V: 5 Satan says touch his body, take his health - and he will curse you to your face. He said the same thing about Job's possessions and his family - there are only so many options left - and again Satan doesn't really know, and again he'll be proven wrong.

- Job has lost his children and his wealth, Satan is saying or implying that because he still has his health, he can start over and have more children, he can start again with his livestock and get back to the place where he once was, but take his health and all that would be impossible, he would have no hope.
- At this point right and wrong don't matter too much to Job, it's the accusation and the assertion that Satan is making - because that is what he does.

Satan: adversary, accuser.

Devil: slanderer; false accuser. Being a false accuser means that he is a liar.

- Accuser & “false accuser” - this means that sometimes the things he accuses us of are true...that's the hard part. The most effective lies are those that are mingled with the truth. (Harbinger, fiction mixed w/ non-fiction)

V: 6 The Lord then allows Satan to strike at Job, but limits what he can do, he cannot kill Job.

- God places His hedge of protection around us as well, Satan is limited in what he can do.

1 Corinthians 10:13 “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

- Satan is allowed a degree of freedom within God's limitations; but in the end he loses.

John 16:33 “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

V: 7-8 Job was smitten with boils from the bottom of his feet to the top of his head. A miserable condition.

- He's reduced to sitting in the ashes and scraping his boils, his oozing sores with a piece of broken pottery.
- Ashes = dump: he was "down in the dumps..."
- Just reading about the boils puts me in a place of compassion and empathy for Job, but there is way more to it than that.

V:8 - Describes that these boils itch, that is why he's taking a piece of pottery and scraping or scratching himself. Often times sores like this will burst or break open and ooze.

Job 3:13-14 Describe Job's inability to sleep, insomnia - perhaps even nightmares, dreaming about desolate places when he does sleep. Miserable.

Job 19:17 Job had "strange breath" or really bad breath.

Leviticus 10:1 Uses the same word describing Nadab and Abihu's offering "strange" fire - it's the same word, meaning it was offensive to God and He killed them for it. Job's breath is offensive to his wife.

Job 19:20 Job's bones cleave to his skin - meaning he's lost a lot of weight.

Job 21:6 Describes fever and chills.

Job 30:27 "My bowels boiled, and rested not..." Job had severe diarrhea.

Job 30:30 "My skin is black upon me, and my bones are burned with heat."

- Job was burning up with fever,

Job 19:19 "All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me." He's experiencing rejection on every level.

Job 3:21 Longing for death, but it doesn't come.

- It's no wonder that we read in verse 12 that his friends didn't recognize him.

V: 9-10 Job's wife, his help meet, his soul mate - the one who makes him complete, and the mother of his children.

- Do you still believe in God? Do you still worship God after all of this?

- Understand, she's had a bad couple of days too. She's not only lost everything materially which doesn't compare to the loss of her 10 children. She's somewhere in the grief process - and obviously not dealing with it the same way that Job has.
- When she says / suggests to Job that he "... curse God and die..." she's obviously struggling with bitterness - and in her weakened state she is a pawn of the enemy. "Curse God and die..." is exactly what the enemy wanted Job to do.
- This is no different than when Peter spoke in **Matthew 16** just after declaring Jesus is the Son of the living God.

Jesus began to describe His death and resurrection:

Matthew 16:22 "Then Peter took Him, and began to rebuke him, saying, be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee."

Jesus' response: "23Get thee behind Me, Satan: thou art an offence unto Me..."

- Satan can so easily at times work through those that we love, the temptation is stronger because of our love for them.

Genesis 3:6 Adam listened to Eve and ate the fruit with disastrous results.

Genesis Ch. 16 Abraham listened to Sarah with regard to Hagar, and Ishmael was the result.

- It's not that we're not to listen to our wives; we need to exercise discernment, to listen and consider carefully carefully what is being said.

Speaking of wives, Peter instructs us:

1 Peter 3:7 "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered."

- Job does well in his response to his wife.
- Job both corrects and instructs his wife, even during this difficult time - he doesn't loose it or lash out.
- Some times husbands will have a hard day at work, or some other somewhat external issue, then go home and take it out on their wives and kids. They can't lash out at their boss, other people won't put up with it - so their wives and kids become the victim of their bad attitude.
- Job tells his wife not to talk like a non-believer, like the foolish women. That is a correction.

Ephesians 4:17-18 “¹⁷This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, ¹⁸having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:”

- Don't do it the way the world does it. Do what? Everything!
- Then the instruction:

V: 10b “Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?”

“Are we only going to love God during the good times, won't we trust Him even during the dark times.”

- One of the lessons of Job is that God doesn't exist for us, we exist for Him!

Colossians 1:16 “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him.”

Revelation 4:11 “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for they pleasure they are and were created.”

- God can use us any way He wants, and He can and often does put us in seemingly difficult or even impossible situations for reasons that we may not understand until we're in heaven.
- In **Exodus Ch. 14** God delivered Israel from their bondage in Egypt, then as He led them out and away they found themselves up against the Red Sea with steep mountains on both sides of them, and Pharaoh's army coming up behind them. They were in an impossible situation, no way out, death seemed certain.
- God, why would you do this? They couldn't understand - not until it had all played out.

Exodus 14:4 “And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he shall follow after them; and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord...”

- God parted the Red Sea before the children of Israel, they were delivered, Pharaoh's army was destroyed, and God was glorified!
- Whatever God brings into our lives; let His will be done, and let us not be bitter against God

Job 1:21 "... the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Philippians 4:11-12 "11Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12I know both how to be abased (made low), and I know how to abound, every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

V: 10c God's assessment and approval: "In all this did not Job sin with his lips."

V: 11-13 Job's three friends are now come, they've heard of his ordeal, and they've come to mourn with him, and to comfort him.

- Noble intent, these guys cared enough to travel great distances to be with their friend.
- When they commiserated with Job, they didn't sit in a comfy chair, or even a nice clean hospital room. They sat with him in the ash heap, the trash pile.

Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

1. Eliphaz the Temanite. (My god is gold) Temanite, City of Teman / Edom.
2. Bildad the Shuhite. (*Shortest man in the Bible*) (Son of Contention) Thought to be a town in Samaria.
3. Zophar the Naamathite. (Chirping / Sparrow / Insolence) In N/W Arabia.

- Their grief was genuine, they were sincere. They tore their clothes, they wept, they threw dust on their heads, they were right there with their friend.
- Initially they demonstrated really the best way to help people who are hurting and grieving is just to be there, saying little if anything, letting them know that you care and that you love them.
- So often there are no words, we can't explain, or make it better - we want to but we really can't.
- Explanations never heal a broken heart.
- So they just sit down and hang out with Job. They held their peace for 7 days. They did better than I would have. In the next chapter the trouble starts as they start talking.

Proverbs 10:19 "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

Ref.Job.02