

# God, Wisdom, and Difficult Times

A Study of Job

**Does Job Fear God for Nothing?**

# Assignments

- ▶ **Read the book of Job through twice. Use a different translation each time.**
- ▶ **Read at least one other book relating to suffering.**
  - ▶ The book may come from the supplied reading list.
  - ▶ If you have another book you would like to read, come talk with me.
- ▶ **Be prepared toward the end of the series to share insights you have gained from Job, and from the other book(s) you have read.**

# 1:1 - 2:13 Prologue

## The Accuser Questions Job's Motives (1:6-12)

### ▶ Heaven's Staff Meeting - 1:6-8

- ▶ The Accuser is with the other Messengers.
- ▶ “Have you considered my servant, Job?”
- ▶ This was not a private conversation.
- ▶ God, who has *scrutinized* Job, reaffirms Job's character (just as Eliphaz did in 4:2-4).

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  - ▶ Accuses God of being wrong about Job.
  - ▶ “Does Job fear God for nothing?” - 1:9
    - ▶ Who wouldn't fear God if he was blessed like Job?
    - ▶ You've put a hedge around him.
    - ▶ You don't really know Job.
    - ▶ He doesn't love you - he loves what you give him!

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### ▶ The Accuser Slanders Job - 1:11

- ▶ He cannot attack Job's *righteousness* so he attacks Job's *motives* - see John 6:26.
- ▶ Take away what he has and will curse you to your face.

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## The Accuser Questions Job's Motives (1:6-12)

- ▶ **The Question - Will Job Curse God?**
- ▶ **God Defends Job - 1:12**
  - ▶ God's ground rules - do what you want, but don't lay a finger on Job.
- ▶ **The Accuser**
  - ▶ Does not have unlimited power.
  - ▶ Thought he knew Job.
  - ▶ Thought he was wise in challenging God's evaluation of Job.
  - ▶ Thought he was wiser than God.
- ▶ **Important to Remember - Job knows none of this!**

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  - ▶ What came out of Job in the crucible of his suffering was what was in him!
  - ▶ Key understanding: Job understood God didn't owe him anything.
  - ▶ Key result: Job did not sin!

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- ▶ **The Outcome?**
  - ▶ Satan's prediction - Job will curse God to His face.
  - ▶ Job's response - "may the name of the Lord be praised."
  - ▶ Two things could not be more opposite!

# 1:1 - 2:13 Prologue

## Suffering and Purpose

- ▶ Did Job's suffering have purpose?
- ▶ From Job's perspective, was his suffering meaningless?

# 1:1 - 2:13 Prologue

## God's Involvement in Job's Suffering

- ▶ **Who was behind Job's suffering - the Sabeans and Chaldeans, the Accuser, or God?**
  - ▶ Was the Accuser using the Sabeans and Chaldeans?
  - ▶ Why did the Sabeans and Chaldeans do it?
  - ▶ Job said God has taken away. Was he right?
- ▶ **Different Motives**
  - ▶ The Sabeans and Chaldeans? The Accuser? God? (cf. Genesis 50:20)
- ▶ **Different Intentions**
  - ▶ The Sabeans and Chaldeans? The Accuser? God? (cf. Isaiah 5:10-12, 15-16)
- ▶ **Nature as a Tool of the Accuser (cf. Mark 4:35-41, esp. 39)**