

90 Days through the Bible

Job

A revelation of God's invisible qualities, eternal power and divine nature

- Living in a war zone- bless nearly always is accompanied with attack.
- My testimony – I believed in God because of nature but struggled to accept the idea that there is a devil.
- Barna report
- The closest most people ever get to having a revelation of God is seeing him in nature, but what if we could see behind the curtain of what is natural to the supernatural?

Romans 1

16For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes--Jews first and also Gentiles. 17This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

18But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who push the truth away from themselves. 19For the truth about God is known to them instinctively. God has put this knowledge in their hearts. 20From the time the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky and all that God made. They can clearly see his invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse whatsoever for not knowing God.

21Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. The result was that their minds became dark and confused. 22Claiming to be wise, they became utter fools instead. 23And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people, or birds and animals and snakes.

Job 12 [Nature can teach us about God]

7"Ask the animals, and they will teach you. Ask the birds of the sky, and they will tell you. 8Speak to the earth, and it will instruct you. Let the fish of the sea speak to you. 9They all know that the LORD has done this. 10For the life of every living thing is in his hand, and the breath of all humanity.

- 95% of people believe in and acknowledge a creator, but even a lot of Christians don't know what to think about the devil.
- The enemy's greatest strategy is to be stealth – To get us to not believe in his existence.
- Job gives us a peek behind the veil of what can be seen.

Job 1

1There was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless, a man of complete

integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil. 2He had seven sons and three daughters. 3He owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred teams of oxen, and five hundred female donkeys, and he employed many servants. He was, in fact, the richest person in that entire area. 4Every year when Job's sons had birthdays, they invited their brothers and sisters to join them for a celebration. On these occasions they would get together to eat and drink. 5When these celebrations ended--and sometimes they lasted several days--Job would purify his children. He would get up early in the morning and offer a burnt offering for each of them. For Job said to himself, "Perhaps my children have sinned and have cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular practice.

Job's Character

- Blameless – “He was blameless, a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.
- A life of blessing and prosperity – He was wealthy in every way.
- He loved his children and interceded for the mistakes they made.
- A good heart - a practice of worship - Walked in faith

Interaction in the spirit realm

- God's attitude towards Job – Trust
- Satan's plan – to turn Job away from God.

Job 1

6One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan the Accuser came with them. 7"Where have you come from?" the LORD asked Satan. And Satan answered the LORD, "I have been going back and forth across the earth, watching everything that's going on." 8Then the LORD asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth--a man of complete integrity. He fears God and will have nothing to do with evil." 9Satan replied to the LORD, "Yes, Job fears God, but not without good reason! 10You have always protected him and his home and his property from harm. You have made him prosperous in everything he does. Look how rich he is! 11But take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!" 12"All right, you may test him," the LORD said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the LORD's presence.

The demonic attacks begin

Attack # 1

13One day when Job's sons and daughters were dining at the oldest brother's house, 14a messenger arrived at Job's home with this news: "Your oxen were plowing, with the donkeys feeding beside them, 15when the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." 16While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." 17While he was still speaking, a third messenger arrived with this news: "Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and

killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

- Against his prosperity & personal property
- Against his business and employers

Attack # 2

18While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "Your sons and daughters were feasting in their oldest brother's home. 19Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in from the desert and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

- Against his household & family

Jobs first response to spiritual adversity

20Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground before God. 21He said, "I came naked from my mother's womb, and I will be stripped of everything when I die. The LORD gave me everything I had, and the LORD has taken it away. Praise the name of the LORD!" 22In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.

Back to the spirit realm

Job 2

1One day the angels came again to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan the Accuser came with them. 2"Where have you come from?" the LORD asked Satan. And Satan answered the LORD, "I have been going back and forth across the earth, watching everything that's going on." 3Then the LORD asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth--a man of complete integrity. He fears God and will have nothing to do with evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you persuaded me to harm him without cause." 4Satan replied to the LORD, "Skin for skin--he blesses you only because you bless him. A man will give up everything he has to save his life. 5But take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!" 6"All right, do with him as you please," the LORD said to Satan. "But spare his life."

Attacks continue

Attack # 3

7So Satan left the LORD's presence, and he struck Job with a terrible case of boils from head to foot. 8Then Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes.

- Against his health – physical illness

Attack #4

9His wife said to him, "Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die." 10But Job replied, "You talk like a godless woman. Should we accept only good things from the hand of

God and never anything bad?" So in all this, Job said nothing wrong.

- Against his marriage

Characteristics of the attacks

Adversity came from

- Unexpected disaster & accidents
- People – violence
- Disgruntled relationships

Attacks were against

- Family
- Property
- finances
- Business & employees - livelihood
- Health
- Marriage

Enters Job's three friends

11 Three of Job's friends were Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. When they heard of the tragedy he had suffered, they got together and traveled from their homes to comfort and console him. 12 When they saw Job from a distance, they scarcely recognized him. Wailing loudly, they tore their robes and threw dust into the air over their heads to demonstrate their grief. 13 Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. And no one said a word, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words.

Chapter 3 - 37

- Three well meaning friends of compassion and sympathy – 7 days of silence.
- Trying to figure it all out. Philosophize - theologize – intellectualize

Chapter 38 - 41

- God speaks to Job and reveals himself to him.

Chapter 42

- Job repents & prays for his friends
- All is restored