

# JOB

## The God Who Is Worth Fearing and Following

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# Structure and Overview

- ◆ **Act 1:** Prologue (chs. 1–2)
- ◆ **Act 2:** Dialogue with Three “Friends” (chs. 3–31)
- ◆ **Act 3:** Elihu’s Speeches (chs. 32–37)
- ◆ **Act 4:** Yahweh’s Speeches with Brief Response (38:1–42:6)
- ◆ **Act 5:** Epilogue (42:7–17)

# Act 1: Prologue (chs. 1–2)

## ◆ Setting (1:1–5)

## ◆ Scene 1 (1:6–22)

❖ 1:8–9

❖ 1:20–22

❖ God is sovereign over evil, which he works to his own ends (Isa 45:7; 2 Sam 24:1 with 1 Chr 21:1; 2 Chr 12:70)

## ◆ Scene 2 (2:1–13)

❖ 2:3–6

❖ 2:7–10

# Act 2: Dialogue with Three “Friends” (chs. 3–31)

- ◆ Job curses the day of his birth (ch. 3)
- ◆ Dialogue between Job and his “friends” (chs. 4–26)
  - ❖ *Round 1 (Job 4–14):* E (4:2, 7–9; 5:17) > J (6:1–4, 24–27; 7:20–21) > B (8:1–7) > J (9:1–4, 14–20, 30–35; 10:1–7) > Z (11:1–6, 13–15) > J (13:15–16; 14:13–14)
  - ❖ *Round 2 (Job 15–21):* E (15:2–4, 9–10, 17, 20–21, 33–35) > J (16:6–11, 18–19) > B (18:5–8, 18–19) > J (19:5–9, 25–27) > Z (20:4–8, 27–29) > J (21:7–9, 17–20)

❖ *Round 3 (Job 22–26):* E (22:5–11, 21–23) > J (23:3–7, 10–12; 24:13, 21–25) > B (25:2–6) > J (26:2–3, 12–14)

## ◆ **Job’s extended response**

❖ 27:1–6

❖ 28:12–28, esp. vv. 21, 23, 28

## ◆ **Job’s final defense (ch. 31, against 22:5–11)**

❖ 31:5, 7, 9, 13, 16–21, 29–33, 38–39

# Act 3: Elihu's Speeches (chs. 32–37)

◆ **Elihu's problem with Job: 32:2–3**

◆ **Elihu's response:**

❖ 34:10–15

❖ 36:3–6, 13–15, 17–18, 21–23

❖ 37:23–24

# Act 4: Yahweh's Speeches (chs. 38:1–42:6)

- ◆ **Yahweh:** “Can you do the things I have done? Do you think I know how to handle your case?”
  - ❖ 38:4–5, 12, 41; 39:1, 19–20, 26–27
- ◆ **Yahweh:** 40:2
- ◆ **Job:** 40:4–5
- ◆ **Yahweh:** 40:8–9
- ◆ **Job:** 42:2–6

# Act 5: Epilogue (42:7–17)

- ◆ Job never finds out why he suffered; the reader learns that Job was not the reason but that God was the reason—not simply as the source but as the goal.
- ◆ No word is given regarding Elihu, which suggests that his theology was sound.
- ◆ God’s scolds Job’s three “friends” but affirms and blesses Job.
- ◆ Job receives double what he lost.



# Message

## ◆ Why do the righteous suffer?

❖ 1:9

❖ Eph 3:8–10

## ◆ God is supreme over all things, and his wisdom is unsearchable.

❖ 35:6–7 (Elihu)

❖ 36:22–23 (Elihu)

❖ 41:10–11 (Yahweh)

❖ Rom 11:33–36

# ◆ What is the hope of the righteous sufferer?

- ❖ Job hoped in his Redeemer and in the resurrection.
  - ❖ 13:15–16
  - ❖ 14:14
  - ❖ 19:25–26
- ❖ We, too, should hope in the resurrection.
  - ❖ Phil 1:18–20. Yes, and I will rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

# Summary of Job

**Though Satan may cause the righteous person to suffer deep loss and pain, as a testimony to the sovereign God's worth, righteousness, and wisdom, the sufferer should continue to fear God because of who he is and should hope in the resurrection when the Redeemer will right all wrongs and defeat all evil.**