

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?

JOB

AN INVITATION TO TRUST GOD'S WISDOM

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

1-2

JOB

- BLAMELESS
- RIGHTEOUS
- HONORS GOD

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE BLAMELESS, RIGHTEOUS JOB?

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

THE SATAN

SAH-TAHN 22 (HEBREW) 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 WIFE CURSE GOD AND DIE!

ELIPHAZ THE TERNANITE **BILDAF THE SHUITE** **ZOPHAR THE MESHANITE**

JOB

BEST OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN THOUGHT

ASHES

PROLOGUE

3-28

JOB IS RIGHT

3-28

JOB

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

3-28

THE FRIENDS

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



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 DESPAIR 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)

A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE 38-41

38-39

GOD

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I LAID THE EARTH'S FOUNDATIONS? (38:1)

JOB'S ASSUMPTION

GOD'S JUSTICE = HUMANS + GOD

DEEPER ASSUMPTION

JOB HAS ENOUGH PERSPECTIVE TO MAKE SUCH A CLAIM

GOD'S RESPONSE

JOB DOESN'T HAVE A UNIVERSAL VANTAGE POINT

CONCLUSION

JOB IS NOT IN A POSITION TO ACCUSE GOD

THE POINT

LIMITED PERSPECTIVE

40A

JOB

EVIL EVILS MURDER LIES INJUSTICE

IT'S COMPLEX, AIN'T IT?

GOD

40B-41

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

BEHEMOTH

LEVIATHAN

SYMBOLS OF DISORDER & DANGER

GOD'S WORLD

GOOD ORDERED BEAUTIFUL

NOT PERFECT WILD DANGEROUS

QUESTION

WHY IS THERE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD?

RESPONSE

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

JOB

I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!

YOU ARE UNJUST!

YOU'RE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE THAT CLAIM

I INVITE YOU TO TRUST MY WISDOM

GOD

GOD'S RESPONSE

42

42A

JOB

I RETRACT & I REPENT

JOB HAS SPOKE RIGHTLY ABOUT ME

YOU THREE SPOKE GARRINGLY ABOUT ME

GOD

JOB

GOD HONORS

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

42B

JOB'S FAMILY & FORTUNES RESTORED

JOB

14K

6K

1K

1K

EPILOGUE