



Eternal PERSPECTIVE Job

BIBLE TEXT | JOB 1:1-5

1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. **2** There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. **3** He possessed 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys, and very many servants, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. **4** His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. **5** And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and consecrate them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually.

DEVOTIONAL FOR JOB 1:1-5

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As we enter into the book of Job, it is understandable that we would skip ahead and remember the stories we heard in Sunday school—stories about how Job lost everything; family, friends, and possessions. When I was in 6th grade, I entered public school for the first time. Growing up in a private elementary school, it was torture to walk through the halls, hearing cuss words and heavy metal music blasting in the locker room. I thought to myself, "At least I'm not Job". Every negative experience I have had, I always compare it to what Job endured. And in a way, I was right, Job had it bad. But why? Where did Job's story begin?

Here's what we know about Job, and what sets him apart.

CHARACTER

Job, a man from Uz, was "blameless and upright" and also "feared the Lord and shunned evil (Job 1:1)." We don't know how Job got to this position, but we know that in relation to God, Job was extremely devout. Job was a man to be respected and revered.



POSITION

Job was quite the successful businessman in his day. Here's what he owned: 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 donkeys and a large number of servants. He was the "greatest of all the people of the east" (verse 3).

FAMILY

Job had a massive family, including seven sons and three daughters. Having seven sons, Job was able to pass his legacy on to many generations. On many occasions, Job's sons would host wild parties, and the three sisters would join along. The parties would last for days. After the food and drink ran out, Job would offer a sacrifice, a burnt offering, thinking, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts" (verse 5).

Job had it all. He was closest to God and unmatched when it came to success. Not to get too far ahead, but, there is no question why God would allow Job to be tested by Satan later on in this book.

Here are some things to consider.

Questions:

1. In comparison to Job, do you live a life that is upright and blameless? It was attainable for Job. Is it attainable for you?
2. Job fought hard for the spiritual health of his family (verse 5). Do you pray for your family members? Do you invite or encourage them to be a part of the local church?
3. Job had many possessions, yet remained close to God. In what ways do you need to repent and ask God to help you place your relationship with Him above material wealth and possessions?