

THE GOSPEL STORY
Lessons from the Life of Job
Job 1 and 2

Job is a book about suffering.

What unnerves most people is this book opens us up to the possibility of extreme suffering.

- Job was afflicted by a horrible disease.
- Job experienced massive economic instability.
- Job dealt with relational tension.

There are a few things to know about Job...

1. Job was a successful man (Job 1:1-8)

- Job is a real story about a real man.
- Job's friends are real people (i.e. Eliphaz the Temanite).
- Job lived in a real place (i.e. the Land of Uz – not Oz – today Southern Jordan/Northern Saudi Arabia).

Other important things to know about an important man:

- An important reason Job suffered – and is the same reason we suffer – it's so others can see how people should suffer. We are on display.
- The book of Job is one of the very first books written in the Bible. The setting of the book of Job would be somewhere in Genesis.

2. Job was a suffering man (Job 1:9-22; 2:7-10)

None deserved suffering less and few have suffered more than Job.

- **Job's suffering presents some issues:**
 - How much freedom does Satan have?
 - Why do the righteous suffer?
 - What happens after death?

3. Job was a seeking man (Job 3:11-12)

Job rested in two truths:

God can do anything (see Job 42:1-6)

God controls everything (see Job 42:2)

We can learn four life lessons from Job:

1. Suffering has been part of life from the beginning.
2. Godly people are not exempt from suffering.
3. We may never know why suffering occurs.
4. We can always find rest in God's sovereignty.