

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?

BIG ASSUMPTION

HUMAN ACTION	GOD'S JUSTICE
WISE & GOOD EVIL & STUPID	SUCCESS & REWARD DISASTER & PUNISHMENT

3-37

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)

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-TANN] n [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 THAMARITE

BILDAD THE SHUPHATE

ZOPHAR THE MATHANITE

JOB

BEST OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN THOUGHT

ASHES

PROLOGUE

3-28

JOB

JOB IS RIGHT

ARGUMENT	IMPLICATION
I'M INNOCENT!	MY SUFFERING IS NOT DIVINE JUSTICE

CONCLUSION A	OR	CONCLUSION B
GOD DOESN'T RUN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE		GOD IS UNJUST

THE FRIENDS

ARGUMENT	IMPLICATION	CONCLUSION
GOD IS JUST	GOD RUNS THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE	JOB "MUST HAVE" SINNED

SEE JOB 22

ELIHU

ARGUMENT	IMPLICATION	CONCLUSION
GOD IS JUST	GOD RUNS THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JUSTICE	SUFFERING MAY BE A WARNING TO AVOID FUTURE SIN BECAUSE IT BUILDS CHARACTER

BTW: DON'T ACCUSE GOD, DUDE!

JOB & THE FRIENDS

38-41

A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE

GOD

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I LAID THE EARTH'S FOUNDATIONS? (38:4)

38-39

JOB'S ASSUMPTION

GOD'S JUSTICE = HUMANS | GOD

DEEPER ASSUMPTION

JOB HAS ENOUGH PERSPECTIVE TO MAKE SUCH A CLAIM

THE POINT

LIMITED PERSPECTIVE

GOD'S RESPONSE

JOB DOESN'T HAVE A UNIVERSAL VANTAGE POINT

CONCLUSION

JOB IS NOT IN A POSITION TO ACCUSE GOD

10A

JOB

EVIL MURDER LIES

INJUSTICE

IT'S COMPLEX, AIN'T IT?

GOD

10B-11

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

BEHEMOTH

LEVIATHAN

SYMBOLS OF DISORDER & DANGER

GOOD ORDERED BEAUTIFUL

GOD'S WORLD

NOT PERFECT WILD DANGEROUS

QUESTION	RESPONSE
WHY IS THERE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD?	WE LIVE IN AN AMAZING WORLD THAT IS NOT DESIGNED TO PREVENT SUFFERING

JOB

YOU ARE UNJUST!

I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!

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 SPOKEN RIGHTLY ABOUT ME

YOU THREE SPOKE WRONGLY ABOUT ME

GOD

GOD HONORS

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

42B

JOB'S FAMILY & FORTUNES RESTORED

JOB

14K

6K

1K

1K

EPILOGUE