

**Lighthouse Bible Church**  
**June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (Father's Day)**  
**Job 1: 1 – 2: 10**  
**'Job, an example Man & Father'**

**Stand – Read – Pray**

You might recall that on mother's day we looked at the first mother whom the Bible described as the mother of all living, and that was Eve. I had every intention, then, at looking at the first father recorded in scripture and that was Eve's husband Adam.

But in the intervening time in looking at the Old Testament I was drawn to another man, another father, whose life and legacy still lives on today and is very familiar to many of us through his example of suffering and his dedication to the Lord, and that of course is Job.

We are often drawn to this passage of scripture when we want to get a behind the scenes look at how Satan operates in human lives and what God will and will not allow him to do.

We are often drawn to this passage of scripture when we want to look at someone whose life has been so devastated by disaster and tragedy and adversity and wanting to see how he responds to it and the emotional roller coaster he goes on.

From God's perspective Job is such an example of integrity, uprightness and blamelessness as he goes through his adversity because it says **Job did not sin with his lips nor did he charge God with wrong.** Then on the other hand Job himself says in **Job 3: 3 may the day perish that I was born...**

We can understand and identify with the statement of Job ‘o I wish I had never been born’, when we go through a difficult time, but it is harder for us to respond the way he did in not sinning and blaming God when we go through adversity.

When you look at the life of Job, he becomes an incredible example of a man and a father that men and fathers should desire to emulate today. So I would like to look at this man’s life and see what we can learn from him.

First of all we see that, Job #1 was a faithful man.

Look at **Verse One and Eight: ...and that man was blameless and upright and one who feared God and shunned evil.**

There are four aspects to this faithful man and father that should mark every man and father. First of all he is described as **blameless**. It is a word in the Hebrew that means *complete, to have integrity, undefiled*. Not sinless, but living a consistent *unblemished* life.

It is the same character quality that every Elder and Deacon is to exemplify according to **1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3: 2, 10**. It is a character quality that is to mark all believers, according to **2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3: 14**; they are to be blameless.

He is also described as **upright**. It means to be *just or righteous*. The N.T. counterpart of that word is *innocent* or *holy, guiltless, faultless, one who follows His laws*. Again, this should be the character quality of every believing father as well as all believers. **1<sup>st</sup> John 3: 7** says **let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness IS righteous, just as He is righteous.**

He is also described as **one who feared God**. It is one who is *reverent* or a *worshipper of God* or *who adores God*. It is the father who is *morally reverent* toward God. It is the man and father who worships God and revere Him above all else. Again it is a quality that all people are to display as **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2: 17** says **honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God...**

He is finally described as **one who shuns evil**. One who *departs from, turns away from* or *withdraws from* evil. That is the kind of man and father that stands in the minority today. One who is willing to say no to sin and evil by turning away, by walking away from it and by implication protects his wife and children from it as well.

But that should characterize all believers, right. **Proverbs 3: 7** says **be not wise in your own eyes, fear the Lord and depart from evil**. **Proverbs 8: 13** says **the fear of the Lord is to HATE evil ... and the evil way**. **Proverbs 14: 16** a wise man fears and departs from evil.. & many others

Job is not only a **faithful man** Secondly, #2 Job is a father and family man: Look at **Verse 2: and seven sons and three daughters were born to him**. He was a faithful man of God and now added to that, he is a family man, a father. He has all of those virtues and character qualities of Verse one and now he has children, in which to impart those character qualities.

He has the responsibility, as **Proverbs 22: 6** says **to train up His children in the way they should go**. Or as **Ephesians 6: 4** tells **fathers not to provoke his children to anger but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord**.

Job had a large family and he, undoubtedly, understood what **Psalm 127 3 – 5** says **children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a REWARD** (not a accident, not an inconvenience).

**Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. Happy is the man who has a quiver full of them...** and as we shall see, we know that Job was a happy man and loved his children deeply.

Job is not only a faithful man and a father and family man but thirdly #3 Job is a favored and blessed man:

**Verse 3: also, his possessions were 7000 sheep, 3000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 female donkeys and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.**

In the middle of Verse 10 it says **You have blessed the work of his hands and his possessions have increased in the land...**

One of the reasons that Job had all that he did was because he was a hard worker, he was not a lazy man. He worked hard when it came to his land and animals and he worked hard when it came to his children as well, as we shall see.

Hard work must mark every man and father if he wants to enjoy the true blessings and favor of the Lord. Scripture is full of admonitions against the lazy person in the care of his possessions and the care of his children and family.

Job is really a fulfillment of **Proverbs 13: 4** which says **the soul of the lazy man desires and has nothing but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.**

It is really no different with your children, fathers, being diligent with them, especially when it comes to telling them and teaching them about God and Christ.

**Psalm 78: 1 – 7** *Read*    **Deuteronomy 11: 18 – 21** *Read*

Job is not only a **faithful man** and a **father and family man** and a **favoured and blessed man** but fourthly #4 Job was an Intercessor for his children look at verses 4 – 5

**Verses 4 – 5:** *Read*

Job's children would have a time of feasting and celebration and they would do that from house to house and all indications are that it was done once a week or on each of their birthdays

All of the children and their families would gather in one of the brother's homes and the sisters and any family they had would be welcomed as well. All indications are that these brothers and sisters were close to each other and had a harmonious relationship together.

At the end of the feast time Job would send and gather all of his family together and have a time of worship with them. That worship would consist of him offering a **burnt offering sacrifice for each one of them.**

It says **he sent and sanctified** or consecrated **them** and he would **rise early in the morning** to prepare for this worship time. Before they would come and worship God in sacrifice, Job made sure their hearts were right before God. The sanctification process, the consecration was a self-examination and a reminder to them to confess their sin, seek forgiveness and to prepare their hearts to approach God in worship.

**1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16: 5** it says **I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice. Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.**

The reason he did this, and he did it **regularly**, was in case his children **may have sinned and cursed God in their hearts**. Job was acting as an intercessor, an Old Testament priest if you will, between his children and God.

He knows that his children's hearts are desperately wicked. He knows they have a sin nature, He knows they have a potential to sin **inwardly** in their thoughts and **outwardly** in their actions and **verbally** by what they say. He knows that they commit sins in **ignorance** and **willfully**.

So he does what every father should do, he intercedes with God on behalf of his children: in prayer, in reminding them to approach God with a pure heart of confession and TO approach God OFTEN in confession and forgiveness.

So we see Job as a Faithful man, we see him as a father and family man, we see him as a favored and blessed man and we see him as an intercessor for his family. What an incredible man.

We know that a father like that and like any other father is not immune from the affects of this cursed world. We see in **Verses 6 – 12** God allowing Satan to attack Job through destroying all that he has been favored and blessed with to show Satan the integrity of Job's heart.

Then we see in **Verses 13 – 19** how Satan is allowed to do that. They were together, once again, in the **oldest brother's house**.

First of all the **Sabeans** come and take all the **oxen** and **donkeys** and kill all the **servants** and then leave and one surviving person lives to run to Job and tell him what happened.

Then, while the first messenger was still talking with Job, **another** messenger comes and tells Job **the fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants**. There were 7000 sheep. The word for **fire** is *esh* and there is a different word used for lightning that is used 3 times in Job but not here. Now Satan caused Job to not only think that men are the cause for his calamity but now God has a part in it.

Then while he is talking, **another** came and said **that the Chaldeans** stole all the **camels** and **killed the servants** and he alone escaped to tell Job.

Then, finally, while he was still speaking another messenger came in and said that Jobs children were in the **oldest brother's house and a great wind came and struck the house and in fell on his children and they all died**.

Can you imagine Job trying to take all this in? Two disasters at the hands of men and two disasters at the hand of natural or supernatural forces. How do you respond to such devastation in your life in such a short time?

Well, Job after all that he goes through says 'I wish I had never been born'. He was totally devastated, both mentally and physically. He was taken to the absolute limit of what one man could take and then add to that what happens in **Chapter 2: 1 – 7**. God allows Satan to afflict, not only all that he possessed, but now he is allowed to afflict his physical body as well.

He was **struck with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head**. So much so that **Verse 8** says **he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes**. he had to take an earthen vessel made for scraping and scrape the oozing boils.

That word ‘potsherd’ has the root word to scratch or itch. So he was taking this piece of pottery and scraping the boils because of the itching and pain they were causing. That is why in Job Chapter 19 it says no one wanted to be around him.

He has been devastated by the loss of his children, by the loss of all that he possessed and now by the loss of his physical wellbeing. There is nothing more that can be taken from or done to him.

How do you respond to devastation like that? Well, with tears, with heartache, with despair, and in a variety of other physical and emotional ways, which Job does. But notice the integrity of Job in the midst of the most difficult circumstances in **Verses 1: 20 – 22** and **2: 10**

**Verses 1: 20 – 22** *Read* **Chapter 2: 10**

Job makes an incredible statement in **Job 19: 25 – 26** when he says **for I know that my Redeemer lives and He shall stand at last on the earth and after my skin is destroyed this I know; that in my flesh I shall see God...**

What makes Job such an incredible example of what it means to be a father and man of God? It is the same thing that every man and father here today is called to be, even in the midst of the most difficult adversities of life.

You, as men and fathers; Be a man who is faithful to God, one who is undefiled, blameless and lives in righteousness and holiness and obedience because you revere God and you hate evil and desire to turn away from it.



If God blesses you, as a man, with a wonderful wife and one or more children, then be the kind of father God wants you to be. Take that responsibility seriously. Train your children in the ways of the Lord, realizing they are a gift and heritage from God.

Do you as a man and father look at all you possess as coming from God? Are you diligent in your work ethic and a good steward of those things God has given to you, including your children. Do you consistently instruct them in the things of God? Do you work hard for what you possess and find contentment in what you have because it comes from the Lord?

Are you the father that intercedes for your children, regularly, knowing that they are a work in progress and they need you to pray for them and lead them in worship and be a spiritual example for them to follow. Is their spiritual wellbeing a priority for you, is their regular worship a priority for you or are there other things that are more important?

Listen men, fathers and everyone here. We live in a fallen, cursed world and we are going to experience many tragedies and adversities in life. Job said in **Job 5: 7 man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward.** He said in **Job 14: 1 man, who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble.**

Some of these adversities may be brought on by ourselves in our own foolishness and sin, or they may be brought on by someone else for whatever reason, or they may be brought on by God's allowing Satan to try us or they may be brought on by the curse of this world that evidences itself through cancer, accidents, natural disasters or whatever.

How you live and respond to those adversities in your life, fathers, will say volumes to your wife and to your children. How you respond and live in every area of your life will say volumes to them. Do they see Christ in you?

**Lighthouse Bible Church**

**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Job 1: 1 – 2: 10**

**‘Job, an Example Man and Father’**

Introduction

Verses 1-5,8 The Character of Job as a man and father

Job was a \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3: 2, 10, 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3: 14

1<sup>st</sup> John 3: 7, 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2: 17, Proverbs 3: 7

Proverbs 8: 13, Proverbs 14: 16

Job was a \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 22: 6, Ephesians 6: 4

Psalm 127: 3 – 5

Job was a \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 13: 4, Psalm 78: 1 – 7

Deuteronomy 11: 18 – 21

Job was an \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16: 5

Verses 6–19 Afflictions on Job’s children & possessions

Chapter 2: 1 – 7 Afflictions on Job’s physical body

1: 20 – 22, 2: 10 Job’s response to his afflictions

Job 19: 25 – 26, Job 5: 7, Job 14: 1

Application

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