

The Book of Job: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Lesson Two

1. In the last lesson, we were introduced to the main question of this book: “Does Job serve God for nothing?” (Job 1:9) In other words, why do God’s servants serve and obey Him? Do we serve God for the blessings and rewards we can get out of Him? Or, do we serve Him out of love? Well, we serve God out of our love for Him. And God blesses us not according to our good works but according to His love for us, according to His grace. We remember that the rain falls upon both the just and the unjust. (Matthew 5:45)
2. These questions and their answers are a big part of Job. Another big part of Job is the question of suffering. The book begins with Satan betting that Job has been serving God only for what he can get from God. “Take away everything he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face,” Satan said. (Job 1:11) God gives Satan permission to take everything Job has. But Job has no knowledge of this conversation. He does not know why suffering suddenly comes upon him. And it was wise for him not to see his suffering as punishment. It was wise for him simply to accept it. And we will talk more about that in this lesson.
3. Read Job 1:13-22.
4. Terrible tragedy happened to Job. He lost his wealth, and he lost all of his children, all in one day. When something bad happens in your life, you can respond in several ways. Can you name some?
5. One way you can respond to tragedy and suffering is to blame God and turn away from Him in anger.
6. Another way you can respond to suffering is to blame the devil. See Job 1:12. There’s just one problem with that. Does that let God off the hook? Read 1:12 again. Is Satan’s power equal to God’s?
7. A third way to respond to suffering is the way that Job chose. See 1:21-22. Did Job blame God? Did Job blame the devil?

8. What NAME did Job use for God in 1:21? What does that name mean? Other names Job called God were *El Shaddai* and *Eloah*. *El Shaddai* means God Almighty. God is in control. How did this help Job accept suffering in hope? *Eloah* means God goes up. God takes people who are down and raises them up. How did this help Job accept his suffering? (Job 19:26)
9. All of these names for God can be found in the name Jesus. What He has done for us says that suffering will not get the last word. The hope Jesus gives enables us to thank God for His gifts while they are ours, and to release them when the time comes to let them go. "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the NAME of the Lord." (Job 1:21) This acceptance is made possible especially because of the promise we read in Romans 8:31-32.