

## **The Book of Job – An Overview**

1. From a literary standpoint, how is the book of Job classified? R5401:1
2. Should the entire narrative be taken literally? In particular, consider Job 1:6-12 and Job 2:1-6. R5401:2
3. What is the scriptural basis for believing that Job and the narrative of his experiences was real? R5401:3-4
4. From God's perspective, is the main narrative purely historical and only intended to be typical, or could it also include prophecy? R1314 "Again, a difference..."; James 5:10-11; R5401:13
5. From Chapters 1 and 42, what is the broadest lesson God intended the book of Job to teach? R5401:37; R5333 "After his testings...", Gen 1-3 & Rev 20-22; A56:1-2
6. From Chapters 2 through 41, what is the specific lesson that God intended the book of Job to teach? R5401:9-12; A135-136
7. Is the Book of Job the only place in scripture that teaches this specific lesson? Exo. 7:8-12; R4058 subheading "The Voice of the First Sign"; R4060 paragraph "It will be remembered..."

## **The Book of Job – The Specific Lesson**

8. From Chapters 1 and 2 what do we learn of Job's character? R5401:4, 5
9. From the narrative, clearly God permits Satan to afflict Job but Satan could not take Job's life. Given Job's character and God's permission of evil to befall him, what class did Job represent? James 5:10; Heb. 11; Matt. 23:35;
10. In chapter 3 Job laments his birth. What does this tell us about Job's understanding of the evil that was permitted to befall him and in turn the understanding of the class he represented? R5401:9
11. Chapters 4 through 31 includes a series of Job's comforters speaking and Job in turn responding.
  - a. In general, how did Job's comforters view the evil that befell Job and who did they represent? R5401:7; 1 John 5:19; 2 Cor 4:4; Isa. 60:2; Cite verses from the comforter's presentations to support your answer.

- b. In general, what was Job's response and how does this relate to the class he represented? R5401:7-8; Cite verses from Job's response to support your answer.
- c. In R5401:8 Br. Russell notes "And then, with prophetic wisdom, in `Chapter 14`, he presents a most wonderful statement of the course of God's dealing with mankind." Explain this statement and in particular what of Chapter 14 was prophetic? R5401:13-19
- d. Are there other statements throughout Job's response that demonstrate his faith in a future resurrection? Job 7:9,21; E358-359; Job 19:25-26; R3040 Question & Answer on Job 19:26; Others?
- e. Is this consistent with the class that Job represented? John 8:56; Heb 11:8-10; Heb 11:39-40

12. In Chapters 32 through 37 Elihu speaks.

- a. What is the meaning of the name Elihu and what class could he have typified? R5401:20; Strongs H453
- b. When would this class have begun to speak on this subject and what enables them to have a clearer understanding than the classes Job and his comforter's represented? R5401:9-10; Lev 8:30; Exo 29:7; Num 18:8; 1 John 2:27; T37-38
- c. Harmonize this with the statement in R5401:23 that Elihu's words "were merely human wisdom".
- d. What are some of the key points from Elihu's presentation? R5401:20-24
- e. Is this consistent with the understanding of the class that Elihu typified? Rom 3:26; 1 Tim 2:3-6; Acts 24:14-15; 1 Pet 4:12-14

13. In Chapters 38 through 42 God speaks and Job responds. God also deals with Job's miserable comforters.

- a. Who is God addressing and from where? Job 38:1-2; Job 40:6-7
- b. How does God address Job? Job 38:3; Job 40:1-2

- c. When in mankind's history have these questions been able to be fully understood? Psa 77:18; Psa 97:4; Rev 11:18-19; Rev16:18; R511 "And there were lightnings..."; Dan 12:4
- d. Does this timing fit with the symbol of the whirlwind? Dan 12:1; 2 Kings 2:1; R5867 "These are the false..."; R5058 "The text at the head..." through the next paragraph "Again, this trouble...";
- e. How did God's address affect Job and what will be the antitypical fulfilment? Job 42:1-6; R5401:36; Heb 11:39-40; John 8:56; Luke 13:28-30
- f. How did God deal with Job's miserable comforters and what will be the antitypical fulfillment? Job 42:7-9; R5401:36; Isa 26:2; Rev 21:12; Rev 22:24; R1353 "Verse 2...."; A301-302; T94-96;

### **The Book of Job – Personal lessons for the New Creation**

14. What lesson can the New Creation take from Elihu's question "When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble?" Job 34:29; R5401:25-27; Cite scriptures from the New Testament that support this lesson.
15. How does their understanding help the members of the New Creation have peace in face of afflictions? R5401:28-29
16. What role do the afflictions have in the testing and development of the members of the New Creation? R5401:30-33
17. Note any additional lesson you may have gotten from considering the Book of Job.