

DAY OF DISASTER. JOB 1:13-22. 08/24/25. #03.

¹³Now there was a day when his sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; ¹⁴and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵when the Sabeans raided *them* and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" ¹⁶While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" ¹⁷While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" ¹⁸While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, ¹⁹and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" ²⁰Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. ²¹And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD." ²²In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

1. The 4 trials

- a. Satan picked the timing of his attack to coincide with the gathering of Job's children at the oldest son's house
 - a1. The eldest son represented the strength of Job
 - a2. Since Job always sacrificed for his children after such gatherings, Satan implied that some great sin had occurred during the gathering, which would add to Job's grief
- b. The attacks were timed to compound Job's sorrow & to imply that he was being punished by God
 - a1. 2 raids by different groups, fire from heaven, & a great wind storm happening all at once could not be a coincidence
 - a2. Since the attacks were total in devastation, they would indicate severe punishment
- c. Attack 1 was by the Sabeans
 - a1. Sabeans were from Sheba in SW Arabia
 - a2. All the oxen & donkeys were taken
 - a3. All the servants were killed, except one messenger who escaped to tell Job
- d. Attack 2 was fire from heaven

- a1. Lightning strikes consumed all the sheep and killed all the servants except one who reported
 - a2. Since all 7,000 sheep were killed, the strikes had to be of great intensity
 - e. Attack 3 was a raid from the Chaldeans
 - a1. The Chaldeans inhabited Mesopotamia to the north & were ancestors to the Babylonians
 - a2. This is where Sumer, the first empire, Ur, home of Abram, & Akkad were
 - a3. The raiders took the camels & killed the servants
 - f. Attack 4 was a whirlwind coming out of the Arabian Desert which destroyed the home of his oldest son, killing all of Job's children
 - a1. These attacks happened so quickly that one report had not finished for another one arrived
 - a2. Job suddenly went from prosperous & secure to impoverished & devastated
2. Job passes the test
- a. Satan had predicted that Job would curse God if he lost everything & that Job's faith was based upon blessings
 - b. Job responded in 2 ways:
 - a1. He tore his robe (a sign of great grief) & shaved his head (a sign of humility)
 - a2. He bowed down to the ground & worshiped God
 - c. Job's extraordinary response was based upon his relationship with God & his trust in God
 - d. Job's words indicate his understanding of reality
 - a1. Job came into the world with nothing & will leave the world with nothing
 - a2. Since everything belongs to God, he gives to us what is his & takes back from us what is his
 - a3. God owes us no explanation
3. The ultimate sign of worship & submission
- a. Instead of cursing God, Job blesses God
 - a1. Since the word *Lord* (YHWH, *Yahweh*) is used, the Jews assume that Moses wrote the story since the name Yahweh was 1st told to Moses (Ex. 4)
 - a2. The worship of God by Job proved Satan wrong
 - b. Even though God allowed these trials to take place, Job did not blame God of doing anything wrong
 - a1. God can do with what is his anything he wants
 - a2. Since God is holy, there was a holy purpose here
 - c. This did not lessen Job's grief or agony