
2 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. ²And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." ³Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that *there is* none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." ⁴So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. ⁵But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" ⁶And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he *is* in your hand, but spare his life."

1. God promotes the testimony of Job again
 - a. Once again the angels had to report to God
 - a1. Satan was among those giving a report
 - a2. With Job's triumph Satan was defeated
 - b. God asks Satan where he had been
 - a1. Again, Satan states that he had been walking back & forth on the earth
 - a2. 1 Pt. 5:8, 2 Tm. 2:26 Satan never ceases his attacks on people to engender sin & pain
 - c. Once again God promotes Job as blameless
 - a1. Job is an upright man
 - a2. Job still held onto his integrity despite the brutal treatment by Satan
 - d. God said that Satan *incited* him to move against Job
 - a1. This does not mean that God was tricked or maneuvered into moving against Job
 - a2. Even though Satan was the agency of the test, God's higher purpose was to demonstrate Job's faith through the test
 - e. God states that Satan pressed God to move against Job *without cause* (without reason, to no effect)
 - a1. These were the same words Satan used in 1:9, that Job worshiped God for the blessing

- a2. God admits that there was no judicial cause for actions against Job (no reason to judge)
- f. There are other reasons for trials: testing, to prevent sin, humbling, common lot in a fallen world, corporate as one suffers with others, empathetic (2 Cor. 1)...
2. Satan's second time at the plate
 - a. Satan does not give up
 - a1. He states that a man will give up everything he has to save his own life
 - a2. *Skin for skin* – Job would gladly trade the lives of his children for his own
 - b. Of course, Satan's premise is absurd for no loving parent wants to lose his children & no rational man wants to become impoverished
 - c. Satan implies that Job is selfish & without natural affection, so that once his body is attacked, he would curse God
3. Testing, round 2
 - a. God gives permission for Satan to ravish Job's body, but he is not allowed to take his life
 - a1. God allows the ultimate test in order to prove Job's faithfulness
 - a2. Satan wanted to prove that no one would worship God without God's blessings & protection in return
 - b. Job is unaware of the great cosmic battle between God & Satan going on behind the scene
 - a1. Job had become the object of the contest
 - a2. We do not know when we have become the center of some great cosmic struggle
 - c. Tests come in many forms: injury, abuse, demonic attack, betrayal, disease, loss, injustice, persecution, rejection, ridicule, misunderstanding...
 - a1. The answer to all trials is the same: FAITH & TRUST IN THE LORD!
 - a2. 3 premises must govern our faith: (1) God is always in control (2) we do not need to know the reason for the test (3) God will bring good out of the test of the faithful (Rm. 8:28)S