



## Part 2: Summer Snow Storm?

Pastor Grant Fishbook

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### **The Prologue: Job 1:1-3**

In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. He had seven sons and three daughters, and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

Job possessed the human dream – a great family and financial security

### **Drama on the Big Screen: Job 1:8-12**

Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Humanity's response to tragedy is on trial.

### **Drama on the Small Screen: Job 1:20-22**

At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship (interesting response) and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

### **What is Job left with after his dream is dead?**

- 1) His pain (Job 2:7-8)
- 2) His wife (Job 2:9)
- 3) His friends (Job 2:11-13)

**Heretical Doctrine of Divine Retribution:** If you do everything right, then God blesses. If you don't do everything right, then God makes you suffer.

**Truth:** In a spiritual winter, your faith and reality will come into conflict.

**In his winter, Job discovers a God who is irrationally loving  
and incredibly good.**

*(Continues on back)*

## Job's Transformed Response: Job 42:1-6

Then Job replied to the LORD: "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

"You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

The resolution of pain is not in the circumstance. It is in the encounter.

God declares the Doctrine of Retribution to be false!

## Epilogue: Job 42:12-15

The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers.

Jemimah = beautiful dove

Keziah = the smell of cinnamon

Keren-Happuch = horn of eye shadow

**Somewhere in the middle of his winter, God breathes a new love into Job that is irrationally loving and incredibly good.**

## Next Steps

If you are experiencing pain, suffering or loss and you're struggling to see God's goodness:

1. Come forward for prayer after the service and share your need with someone who is standing ready to pray for you
2. Consider blessing God and others through your actions. Sign up at the Connection Point today to bless our community (and God in the process) through Season of Service. Full details are inside today's program.

### Small Group Questions



- 1) What's your favorite summer activity?
- 2) Describe a "winter season" from your life. What questions about God emerged from that dark time in your life?
- 3) Job worshiped God when He gave and when He took away. Can you think of something that God removed from your life that was actually a blessing?
- 4) How did Job encounter God in his pain? How have you encountered God in your pain?
- 5) How can we pray for you tonight?