



Lesson 94

Job's Calamity – Part 2

Story Elements

- **Text:** Job 1:1- 2:10
- **Setting:** circa 3000 B.C. in the land of Uz (northern Arabia)
- **Main Characters:** God, Job, and Satan
- **Plot:** God allows Satan to test Job's faith through the loss of family, possessions, and health.

- **Key word(s):** "a perfect and an upright man, one that _____ God, and escheweth evil" (1:1, 8; 2:3)
- **Climax:** **Job 2:5** *But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.*

Satan Reviles

1. (2:1-3) Having smitten all of Job's earthly possessions and comforts, including his children, Satan returns to God's throne room where the same scene is replayed from 1:6-8.
 - a. (2:4) Again, Satan casts Job in a wicked light and accused him of loving God for selfish reasons. Satan was not satisfied with the evidence of Job's integrity after his tragic loss of all things - the evil one persists in his defamation of God's people to God's face.

Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the _____ of our brethren is cast down, **which accused them before our God day and night.**

APPLICATION → It is Satan's business to speak evil of God's people. Let us forever avoid engaging in Satan's work. May God help us *to speak evil of no man* (Titus 3:2). When there is a need to speak of sin, or to mention something negative regarding someone, *let all things be done unto edifying* (1 Cor. 14:26).¹

- b. (2:4-5) *Skin for skin*, that is, Satan said that Job was willing to let all his cattle and even all his children be destroyed so long as it is his own skin that is saved. This second accusation is the same as the first: Job doesn't really love God – his loyalty only goes so far as his _____, *put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.*

APPLICATION → One of the evil purposes of the wicked one is to get people to curse God when their life has any measure of suffering. Sadly, Satan is often successful in this endeavor.

- c. (2:6) God told Satan that he would be allowed to afflict Job, *but save his life.*

APPLICATION → Matthew Henry reminds us that, "If God did not chain up the roaring lion, how soon would he devour us! As far as he permits the wrath of Satan and wicked men to proceed against his people he will make it turn to his praise and theirs, and *the remainder thereof he will _____*, Ps. 76:10"²

2. (2:7) Satan took his liberty and smote Job with boils all over his body.
 - a. JFB explain Job's boils, or rather *boil*: "as it is singular in the *Hebrew*, a 'burning sore.' Job was covered with one universal inflammation. The use of the potsherd (Job 2:8) agrees with this view. It was that

¹ An example would be church discipline, where a professed Christian's unrepentant sin would need to be mentioned publicly, but even this is done that the chastisement of the church would bring the erring member to repentance.

² Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 658.

form of leprosy called *black* (to distinguish it from the *white*), or *elephantiasis*, because the feet swell like those of the elephant.”³

- b. (2:8) Job resorts to scraping his flesh with a potsherd to ease the pain and sits in ashes to signify his extreme _____.

Wife Reacts

3. (2:9) In all of this, Job’s wife, who certainly shared in his grief, sadly abandoned him in his disease. He sits alone. He scrapes his flesh alone. His helpmeet does nothing to ease his pain or dress his wounds. Instead, she encourages him to do exactly what Satan was tempting him to do: _____ God.

APPLICATION → Behold the wiles of the devil! Job’s wife “was spared to him, when the rest of his comforts were taken away, for this purpose, to be a troubler and tempter to him. If Satan leaves anything that he has permission to take away, it is with a design of mischief. It is his policy to send his temptations by the hand of those that are dear to us, as he tempted Adam by Eve and Christ by Peter.”⁴

Job Rebukes

4. (2:10) Job rebuked his wife, saying *Thou speakest as one of the _____ women speaketh.*

APPLICATION → We ought to regard the temptation to curse or renounce God with utmost revulsion. Only a fool would curse God, and anyone who suggests that we should ought to be summarily rebuked. The true child of God will ever be true and persevere in faith to the end. *Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I _____ in him.*

5. (2:11) Job reasoned with his wife, saying, *shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil.* If God is sovereign, then he not only sends the good, but also the _____ (or *adverse, bad*).

APPLICATION → It is the mark of spiritual immaturity (foolishness) to praise God for the blessings we enjoy but then to curse God for the bad we endure. God brings them both to his people, and both are intended for our edification. (*Romans 8:28*) Job’s wife spoke as a foolish woman, but we act and think like a fool when we are angry and bitter with God for the negative circumstances and the troubling ordeals we experience.

Philippians 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

6. This second round of calamity ended as the first: *In all this did not Job sin with his _____.* May God’s grace help us to have the same testimony when we suffer.

Answer Key: Key word(s): feareth • 1. *Rev. 12:10 accuser*; b. benefits • 2. b. grief • 3. Curse • 4. foolish; → trust • 5. evil • 6. *lips*

³ Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, *Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*, vol. 1 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 311.

⁴ Henry, 659.