

# “THE LORD ACCEPTED JOB”

## **INTRODUCTION**

The **text** for our lesson today is from the book of Job, chapter 42, verse 19, where it is said, “*The Lord accepted Job.*” This statement is recorded near the end of the book, after he had been through many trials in the loss of his possessions, and children, and never denied God. He had already been accepted before these tragedies, and was called “my servant Job” some 5 times in the book, from God Himself.

The **book** of Job is considered to be the oldest book in the Bible, dating back to over 1000 years before Moses. Job is believed to have been contemporary with Abraham in the Patriarchal age. It is not known who wrote the book, but believed that if Job did write it, that the introduction and closing may have been added by Moses. Job is mentioned twice in the book of Ezekiel, where his righteous life is associated with Noah and Daniel (Ezek. 14:14, 20). He is mentioned once in James 5:11 with reference to Job’s patience and the blessings of the Lord. The book contains many conversations between God and Satan, between Job and his friends, between Job and his wife and between Job and God. Let’s see what God said about Job.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **I. 1<sup>st</sup>, God said JOB WAS A PERFECT MAN.**

- A. Three times in the book it is said that Job was a perfect man, in the KJV. Job 1:1,8; 2:3
1. Once it is a divine statement introducing the book, and twice it is said to Satan about Job. (Read all 3 passages).
  2. The word “perfect” in the KJV does not mean “sinlessly perfect,” for only God and Jesus are without sin.
    - a. Noah was “perfect” (Gen. 6:8-9), but later became drunken with alcohol.
    - b. Jesus tells disciples to be “perfect” (Matt. 5:48), but knows that the weakness of man will cause him to be unable to remain without sin.  
1 John 1:7-10; 1:1-2
  3. The NASB and NKJ use the word “blameless” instead of “perfect” in reference to Job, which is the word describing elders in the church in 1 Tim. 3:2.
- B. Job was perfect in his devotion to God and his defense of God’s will, and the faithfulness in his devotion to God.

### **II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, God said JOB WAS AN UPRIGHT MAN.**

- A. Each passage that says Job was perfect, also says he was an “upright” man.
1. God is upright, and to be godly is to be like God—upright. Psa. 25:8; 125:4; 64:10
  2. To be upright is to be fully devoted to God (Who is “up” in heaven), and will not be diverted to the right or to the left in the journey of life. Deut. 5:32-33; Prov. 15:21
- B. God accepts those who walk uprightly—in the path that leads to life. Jer. 6:16; Matt. 7:13-14

### **III. 3<sup>rd</sup>, God said JOB FEARED GOD.**

- A. Again, the 3 passages that say Job was “perfect” and “upright”, ALSO say he feared God. (Read Job 1:1)
1. The word “fear” in this passage does NOT mean “dreaded fear”, but “reverence” and respect for God and His word and His ways.
    - a. Perfect love casts out dreaded fear. 1 John 4:18
    - b. The Hebrew word for “fear” in this passage is the word *yirah* (meaning “reverence), while the word for “dreaded fear” (as described elsewhere

in Job), is pachad, when referring to something dreadful, as in Job 14:14.

2. Job's "fear" of God is stated right between the previously mentioned quality of being "blameless," and the next quality of "turning away from evil," as all 3 belong together. (Read Job 1:1 again).

B. God desires all to have reverence for Him and His word. Eccl. 12:14; Heb. 12:28

#### **IV. 4<sup>th</sup>, God said JOB ESCHEWED EVIL.**

A. Again this term is found in ALL 3 passages of God's acceptance of Job, with the word "eschew" in some form, being used in the KJV of the Bible.

1. However, the word "eschew" (not a common word in our time) is translated "shun" or "shuns" in the NKJ, and rendered "turning away from" in the ASV and NASV.

2. The word "eschew" is found in 1 Pet. 3:11. (Read)

B. To be accepted of God, we must shun evil and do good in it's place. Isa. 5:20; Rom. 12:9; 1 Thess. 5:21-22

#### **CONCLUSION**

I. As a result of Job's character and life, God calls him His "servant" and He "accepted" Job.

A. God is pleased with all who obey His will and have the same qualities Job had.

B. Job was a godly man, and accepted of God, and was prepared for eternity.

II. What about YOU: Does the Lord accept you? Acts 10:34-35

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