

BEHIND THE CURTAIN OF SUFFERING

JOB 1:1-2:10

Part 1 in the series, "Where Is God When It Hurts"

Job's Problem: He has a conflict between his theology and his _____.

**1. UNDERSTAND JOB'S _____
Job 1:1-5**

**2. UNDERSTAND JOB'S _____
Job 1:6-12**

3. UNDERSTAND JOB'S _____

Job's Four Hits of Suffering:

Hit #1: Job's _____ (1:13-17)

Hit #2: Job's _____ (1:18-19)

Job's First Response (1:20-22)

Hit #3: Job's _____ (2:1-8)

Hit #4: Job's _____ (2:9)

Job's Second Response (2:10)

Five Great Truths About Human Suffering:

- 1. Job is righteous and his suffering is not the result of his _____.**
- 2. Job's suffering is instigated by _____, not God.**
- 3. Job's friends will draw the wrong conclusions about the _____ of his suffering.**
- 4. Job's suffering will eventually lead him to _____.**
- 5. God never explains to Job the _____ for his suffering.**

Where is GOD when it hurts?



Reflection and Discussion for Small Groups

Job's First Test (1:1–22)

The first five verses of Job 1 show us Job's wonderfully blessed life.

1.- In verses 1-3, what aspect of Job's life is described first, and why is it important that we are told of this before anything else? What do we learn about Job's family life and his deepest concerns for his family in verses 4-5?

In verses 6-12, the scene shifts to the throne room of heaven. Although ancient Israelites might not have known everything that the New Testament reveals about Satan.

2.- What do we learn about him, his intentions and plans, and his relationship to God? What do we learn about God's sovereignty?

Satan's question in 1:9, "Does Job fear God for no reason?," is most significant.

3.- What is Satan implying about Job's motives and the basis of his relationship with God? If Satan is right, how should God treat Job? Why might it be important for God to allow a terrible test of Job's devotion to him?

Some elements of Job's tragedy have naturalistic causes, while some are supernatural.

4.- We know that Satan is the one at work behind the scenes, but what would Job have concluded about the cause of these losses? How does he express his grief as well as his devotion to God? How does his worship prove that Satan's claim in 1:9 was false?

Job's Second Test (2:1–13)

The Lord's statement in 2:3 that Satan "incited" him against Job "without reason" and is acknowledging that the test was needless, and that Job did not deserve this treatment.

5.- How do we see God continuing to defend his servant against Satan? And does the echoing phrase "for no reason" (1:9) and "without reason" (2:3) imply a deeper reason behind God's actions?

Satan responds to the Lord by implying that Job's first test was not deep enough.

6.- What is Satan's second proposal, and why does he think this will break Job's devotion to God? What do we learn about the quality of Job's loyalty to God from his response to his wife (v. 10)?

to be continued ...