

# Job's Second Test

Job 2:1-10

## **MEMORY VERSE**

JOB 2:10

“Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?”

## **WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

Burlap, scissors, small red dot stickers like those used in offices, fire place ashes in a small, sealed container and a broken piece of pottery or tile (anything with a rough edge can be substituted).

Two pairs of adult shoes with laces.

Light colored construction paper, markers, burlap, glue, scissors, and black confetti.

## **ATTENTION GETTER!**

### **Oh No! I'm Job!**

Today we will be learning about the second trial of Job. In this trial he will lose his health. But we will find that even in the midst of this great trial, Job still has faith in God, even when he doesn't fully understand everything that is happening.

Prior to class gather some burlap, scissors, small red dot stickers like those used in offices, fire place ashes in a small, sealed container and a broken piece of pottery or tile (anything with a rough edge can be substituted). Get a fairly large piece of burlap and cut a hole in the center so the children can have it drape over them.

Explain to the children that they are going to have an opportunity to see what it was like to be like Job. Have a volunteer put on the burlap outer garment or have them pass a piece of burlap around

to rub on their face. Talk about how rough it feels. Show them the box of ashes and explain that they would put the ashes in their hair as a sign of mourning. (Don't really put the ashes in their hair just use it for demonstration purposes only). Next, place some red dot office stickers on the volunteer's face, hands and arms to demonstrate boils. Then show them what it may have been like to scrape those boils with broken pottery. Be very careful and don't allow the children to scrape each other with the pottery.

These are all visual demonstrations of today's lesson. Give other children an opportunity to be Job if they would like. Remind the children that today's theme is **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

## **LESSON TIME!**

In our last lesson we saw Job's first trial. Satan came against Job and made an accusation that if he were to lose all of his stuff, all of the things that God blessed him with then he would certainly curse God. God allowed Satan to attack Job, but not to touch his life. Job lost everything. He lost all of his possessions and more importantly he lost his children. However, in the midst of this great trial, Job never turned against the Lord.

You would think that Satan would realize his defeat, but no, he goes back to God to ask for more. Isn't it interesting that Satan has to ask God for permission to attack His children. In our lesson today we are going to learn about Job's second trial and find out what Job's response is. And in our lesson today we will learn that **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

## JOB 2:1-3

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.

And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

Then 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."

As we open today's lesson we see that it is very similar to the first time when Satan came to God. God asks him where he comes from and Satan replies that he has been going to and fro, all over the earth. It reminds us that Satan is described as a roaring lion SEEKING whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8b). In other words Satan is looking all over this world for people that he can deceive and destroy. We need to be on watch for our adversary.

God's response to Satan shows us Job's character. God says of him that he is God's servant, a perfect and upright man. We see that Job fears God and hates evil, and that he still holds fast to his integrity. Job is the same in his poverty as he was in his prosperity. God allowed Satan to take away everything that Job had and still Job held onto God.

God also sees Satan's plan to destroy Job and confronts him with it. God accuses Satan of trying to incite God to turn against Job and destroy him for no reason. When we think that God does not know or see what is happening to us, we must remember Job. God loves us so much that He watches us always. Nothing slips past Him concerning us. Satan does not trick Him.

It must have blessed the Lord for Him to see Job's steadfastness in his faith. Remember the scripture in the New Testament, "That the trial of your faith being much more precious than of gold that perishes, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:7, KJV). **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

#### **JOB 2:4-6**

**So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.**

**"But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"**

**And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life."**

Satan is aware of the way that people are in their hearts. Self-love and self-preservation are very strong in man's heart. People love themselves better than others. That is the way people are until they find Jesus who then changes their hearts. When He changes a heart, we love others better than ourselves.

Satan said that Job could praise God even when all of his material possessions were gone and his children died. Though they were a part of him it was not his own life or “skin.” Satan said Job would react differently if it were his own life that was endangered. Satan then gives the challenge to make a further trial of Job’s integrity. "But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" Satan thought that if God took away Job’s health, then he would let go of his trust in God and curse Him. **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

It is interesting that Satan said to God to put forth His hand – Satan’s was too short and too weak to harm Job in any way apart from God’s permission. God gives permission to Satan to make this test in Job’s life. Remember that God “does not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men” (Lamentations 3:33). Remember that Satan delights in it. He said, “He is in thy hand; but spare his life.” God gives one restriction – save his life. Satan was hoping that now Job would curse God.

Having health problems is a very difficult thing. Many people today have trials with their health. But there are also some very strong Christians, who at the same time have had health problems. That hasn’t caused them to curse God, but rather draw closer to Him. We need to remember to always trust God no matter what happens. In good times and in bad times, when we are healthy and when we have health problems, we need to trust the Lord.

### **JOB 2:7-8**

**So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.**

And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.

Satan now attacks Job by giving him boils all over his body. From head to foot, he had sore boils, a terrible inflammation on his skin causing tremendous pain. Boils go down into the nerves, which is what causes so much pain. One boil is extremely painful; imagine how it would feel having them all over your body. He could not find any comfortable position – even lying down was painful.

Job scraped himself with a potsherd, a piece of broken pitcher. He was probably scratching the sores for some type of relief. Only his wife remained to be of any assistance. But even she as we will see later encourages him to do the wrong thing. His children are dead, his servants are gone, and all of the comforts of life that once characterized his life were all gone. **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

## Walking In Someone Else's Shoes

This is a relay race game. You will need two pairs of adult shoes with laces. Form two even teams and have the children take off their shoes. Have them line up side by side at one end of the room. At the other end of the room place the two pairs of adult shoes. When you say, “go” have the first person in each team walk (no running!) to the other end of the classroom and put on the shoes. After they have put on the shoes, they will walk back to their teams, their back to the original place, and take off shoes. The next team player now goes.

Continue until all of the children have had a turn. Keep in mind that you may have to assist the younger children with tying shoes. Have your aide assist.

After the game is played and a winning team is declared gather the children together. Ask them how easy it was to walk in someone else's shoes. It isn't always as easy as we think. Ask the children to respond to the questions, "What do you think it would be like to walk in Job's shoes? Do you think it would be easy or difficult?" We need to be sensitive to what others are going through. **God wants us to trust Him even when we don't understand.**

### **JOB 2:9-10**

**Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!"**

**But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.**

In contrast to faithful Job, we see his wife now coming to him. We must remember that she also lost everything that her husband did. Her wealth was gone, her children were dead, and now she sees her husband suffering horribly. There is a good lesson that we can learn from Job's wife. She and Job were going through the same things, yet Job suffered even more and they each reacted differently. She viewed the suffering differently and tells him to just give up on God and die.

Will he still love and serve God? Perhaps she was to be a comfort to him but because she did not share his heart, she became a burden to him. We see that we can go through troubles and become either bitter or better. She became bitter; Job became better. We must be careful how we respond to people's troubles, for we can influence them.



It is good that Job did not listen to her counsel, for it was foolish counsel. He told her she spoke as one of the foolish women speaks. He recognized that her words were foolish. He seems surprised at her for he exclaims, "What?" It never entered his mind to do anything but to praise God. He argues with her by saying, "Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?"

Job knew that not only would good come into their lives, but bad things also. We are so ready to receive the good, yet when trials come we get mad at God and do not want them in our lives. Yet trials are a good thing for us, designed to help us to grow in the Lord. Trials also help us to learn more about the Lord and His love for us.

This kind of trust can only come about by knowing Jesus and making Him Lord of our lives. Then we can have the confidence that what comes into our lives is for our good. "For we know that all things work together for the good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28, KJV). **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

Then we see that through all of this, Job still clings to his faith in God, for the Bible tells us, "In all this did not Job sin with his lips." What a testimony of Job! It is often our lips that are first to sin. Satan's strategy against Job failed. The Bible tells us, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matthew 12:34). Job's heart was filled with the Lord, and that reflected in what he said, or did not say with his lips.

This is a good measure for our own hearts. How do we respond to a trial? How would we like to respond? We need to ask the Lord to examine our hearts, and ask Him to make it pleasing to Him. We

need people of faith and strength in the Lord. We are not to give up when the first sign of difficulty comes our way. Ask the Lord to make you a man or woman of faith, always trusting in Him no matter what. **God wants us to trust Him even when we do not understand.**

## **Sackcloth and Ashes**

For this craft you will need light colored construction paper, markers, burlap, glue, scissors and black confetti. The children will be making pictures of Job in sackcloth and ashes.

Have the children cut out a shape of a robe from the burlap. Glue this shape onto a sheet of light colored construction paper. Have the children draw the head, hands and feet of Job in relation to the piece of burlap. Next, use the black confetti to represent ashes and glue it all around the feet of Job. Allow the children to use markers or crayons to color the rest of the picture.

At the top of the picture have the children write out the theme or the memory verse. Use this as an opportunity to discuss the application of today's lesson and how that we can all trust in God even when we don't understand everything.

## **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to trust in the Lord and His work in our lives when we don't understand. Pray for the Lord's help for us to trust that He has everything under control even when things are difficult for us. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.