

## Job: Why do the Righteous Worship?

### Introduction

Like many OT books, Job was named after its main character. The name “Job” means “hated” or “object of enmity.” It’s probable this was a nickname given to him by his friends during his epic order of suffering.

**I. The Author**—The detailed accounts of lengthy conversations point to an eyewitness as the author. Therefore, Job or one of his contemporaries must have written the book. The fact that Job wrote in third person is not decisive against his authorship since this was common in OT times. The record of Job’s death could have been added by someone else (cf. Deut 34—the death of Moses).

**II. The Audience**—Internal evidence indicates Job lived during the patriarchal period: 1) Job’s length of life (210 yrs. 42:16) is similar to the patriarchs; 2) Job’s wealth is described in terms of herds and livestock (1:3; 42:12); 3) Sabeans and Chaldeans (1:15, 17) were nomads during this period; 4) Job’s priesthood over his family suggests a time before the nations in the Near East became more organized; 5) Names used of people and places were common to the patriarchal period (Sheba, Tima, Eliphaz, Uz, Job); 6) Job contains no references to the Mosaic law.

**III. The Aim**—To teach that when the godly suffer the real issue is not *why* but *who*. Knowing why God does what He does is not necessary as long as a person knows Him.

### IV. The Arrangement

JOB AT A GLANCE							
Focus	Dilemma Of Job	Debates Of Job					Deliverance Of Job
Reference	1:1 ————— 3:1 ————— 15:1 ————— 22:1 ————— 27:1 ————— 32:1 ————— 38:1 ————— 42:17						
Division	Controversy Of God And Satan	First Cycle Of Debate	Second Cycle Of Debate	Third Cycle Of Debate	Final Defense Of Job	Solution Of Elihu	Controversy Of God With Job
Topic	Conflict	Debate					Repentance
	Prose	Poetry					Prose
Location	Land Of Uz (North Arabia)						
Time	Patriarchal Period (c. 2000 B.C.)						

**Job’s Character (1:1-5)**

**Job’s Calamities (1:6—2:13)**

**Job’s Counseling (3—37)**

**Job’s Confrontation (38—42)**

## **V. The Analysis**

*Prologue (1—2)* \*Scenes alternate between earth and heaven

Job's Character (1:1-5) Faith, family, finances and fame  
Righteous, rich, respected, religious  
Piety, posterity, prosperity

Job's Calamities (1:6—2:10)

*Dialogue (3:1—42:6)*

Job's lament (3)

Round One of Speeches (4—14)

Eliphaz and Job's Reply (4—7)  
Bildad and Job's Reply (8—10)  
Zophar and Job's Reply (11—14)

Round Two of Speeches (15—21)  
Speeches become more vicious and sharp.

Round Three of Speeches (22—31)  
Confrontations become even more pointed and specific as Job's friends begin to mention specific sins Job was guilty of committing.

Elihu's Four Speeches (32—37)

God's Two Speeches (38:1—42:6)

*Epilogue (42:7-17)*

## **VI. The Application**

## **VII. The Assignment**