

## Y.R.P. – Lessons from Job

Job is the first of five books in the Bible commonly referred to as “The Books of Poetry”. Those books are Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes & the Song of Solomon. These books are called such because they are written in a poetic style. They are also often referred to as “Wisdom Literature” (*especially Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes*). Oswald Chambers, a Scottish evangelist and teacher, offered this concise summary of the five books:

*The Book of Job: **How to suffer** | | *The Book of Psalms: **How to pray***  
*The Book of Proverbs: **How to act** | | *The Book of Ecclesiastes: **How to enjoy***  
*The Song of Solomon: **How to love*****

Job addresses these key points:

- ***Man is unable to always make sense of life’s painful experiences.*** In other words, God’s ways are beyond our ability to always understand them. We are simply unable to tie all the loose ends of the Lord’s purposes together. We must learn to trust in our Heavenly Father, no matter the circumstances.
- ***Suffering is not always the result of personal sin.*** Job’s friends believed that suffering is always a consequence of sin. Job, however, proves this is not the case.
- ***Suffering may be allowed as a compliment to one’s spirituality.*** God permitted Job to suffer to prove to Satan what kind of man he really was. Maintaining fidelity to God, even under great trials, is a clear sign of spiritual maturity.

**Job 1:1-3** In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. 2 He had seven sons and three daughters, 3 and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

**Job 1:20-22** At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.” 22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

**P2R (Point 2 Remember):** Don’t waste your suffering! Use it as motivation to run to God, not as an excuse to run from God.