

Why Do You Worship God?

Job 1:1-12 (read vs. 1-5)

It is generally agreed “the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” The Scriptures indicate this is true. God desires worship above all else. As David says in the Psalms...

- *Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)*
- *All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name. (Ps. 86:9)*
- *O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. (Ps. 95:6)*

Worship is the main activity in heaven—“*The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*” (Rev. 4:10-11).

Since worshipping God is the supreme expression of glorifying God, Satan will do everything he can to stop it or pervert it. Satan would steal the worship that belongs to God (Mt. 4:9-10).

➡ The emphasis in the book of Job is not suffering, although that is part of it. Job is about worship, and Satan’s efforts to stop Job’s worship.

➡ Job was a man of great spiritual character (vs. 1-5). A TYPE OF CHRIST:

1. Both were rich and became poor.
2. Both were falsely accused.
3. Both were tempted and persecuted by Satan.
4. Both suffered although they did nothing wrong.
5. Both remained faithful to God in their suffering.
6. Both are more abundantly blessed in the end.

I. **An AMAZING scene** (vs. 6-7).

- A. The **calling** of angels (v. 6). Not surprising Satan attends religious meetings. If he would come among the heavenly court of

God, he will certainly also mingle amongst those who gather to worship God on earth!

B. The **conversation** with Satan (v. 7).

II. The **ASSESSMENT of God** (v. 8).

A. Job **COMMENDED** by God—"What do you think about my servant Job? Have you checked him out? Are you aware that his heart is perfect toward Me? He is an upright man. He fears Me and hates evil. There ain't anyone like him in all the earth!"

B. Job **CONSIDERED** by Satan—You can bet Satan considered Job...a lot, otherwise Satan would not have accused Job (v. 9).

1. Job is the kind of man Satan pays attention to (Acts 19:15 —"*Jesus I know, and Paul I know...*"). Satan doesn't consider the wicked living in sin—He doesn't have to. They are no threat to his evil work. Satan doesn't hang out at taverns, casinos, or dope dens. Satan spends more time in churches, Christian homes, Bible colleges, or Bible revision committees.
2. Satan focuses on the righteous—"*He that is upright [Job]...is abomination to the wicked*" (Prov. 29:27). Dr. Ken Blue points out in his commentary on Job:

...a man's righteousness may be his greatest liability. If he were unrighteous, both Satan and God might ignore him. However, neither God or Satan can ignore a man like Job. Therefore, the more righteous a man becomes, the larger target for Satan's arrows.¹

III. The **ACCUSATION of Satan** (vs. 9-12).

A. A **slanderous insinuation** (v. 9—"Doth Job fear God for nought [for nothing]?").

➡ The real **THEME** of the book of Job—"**Job doesn't fear You without a reason.**"

Satan implies Job is a mercenary—The only reason Job worshipped God was because God blesses him— "Job is only in it

¹ Ken Blue, *A Study on The Book of Job*, Local Church Publishing, Port Orchard, WA 1998, p. 9

for the money. Take away his wealth and security and he'll curse You, instead of worshipping you."

1. KEY QUESTION in Job—**Why do you worship God?** Is it because of what God does for you? Or, do you worship Him simply for who He is?
 2. **What will it take to stop you from worshipping God?**
 - *What if* God took away everything that was important to you tonight? ...your wealth? ... family? ... health? Would you still worship God? If you say, "Preacher, I probably wouldn't." Then I would say, "If you will not worship God *in the worst of times*, you have never really worshipped Him at all."
 - a) No matter what happens to us, God is the same. Worship is not about us. Nor is it about what happens to us. **Worship is about God and who He is.**
 - b) We worship God because He is worthy and deserving of our worship. God is not some "cosmic genie." He is the Lord God Almighty! That is why we worship Him!
 - ➡ We worship Him because it is RIGHT! If that is not reason enough for you to worship, then you might as well throw away your Bible and forget about church.
- B. **A subtle presumption** (v. 10). What did Satan question about Job? NOT his behavior, for he was upright. Satan questioned Job's MOTIVES. He implied Job worshipped God for selfish reasons.
1. v. 9—Satan asked this question because **that is the way he is!** Satan knew he would never worship God for nothing.
 - ➡ Satan's conviction was: No one worships the Lord, without a cause—No one lives godly... No one loves God, just for the sake of God's person. Everyone is selfish (like me)—They all have an ulterior motive behind worshipping God—what they can get out of it.

2. Satan did not attack Job by tempting him to do evil. Why? Because Satan knew Job “*eschewed evil.*” So instead of suggesting evil *to Job*, he suggested evil *about Job*—He brought accusation. That is how Satan works. When we hurl accusations at one another, we are behaving like Satan (Rev. 12:10).

C. **A Satanic proposition** (v. 11).

1. Job prayed for his children in case they cursed God in their heart (1:5). Satan believed under the right circumstance, Job would curse God openly.
2. Why did Satan believe Job would curse God? Because he saw it happen countless times in other people when they underwent severe adversity. Satan was betting Job is no different than others who cursed God in times of suffering. But, he’s about to lose this bet!

D. **A Sovereign limitation** (v. 12).

1. God may give Satan liberty to attack you, but with limitations. Satan cannot do anything without God’s permission!
2. It is NOT important to know WHY we suffer, but that we recognize Who is in control of our suffering.

IV. The ADVERSITY of Job (vs. 13-19).

- A. The TRAGEDY—This is heartbreaking when you realize this actually happened. It is no fairy tale. This happened in one day to a real man who had feelings like you and I have.

➡ Can you imagine what he must have felt. Ten funerals for his children in one day. You talk about having a “bad day”—It doesn’t get much worse than this.

- B. The TRIUMPH (vs. 20-22). Job’s statement is one of the most amazing statements recorded in literature.

➡ **Satan’s plan backfired!** Instead of Satan driving Job to curse God, Job commences to worship and praise God! Job did not know anything about Satan's challenge before God. But that didn't matter. He chose to worship instead of complain.

► Job did not blame the weather... the fire... the Sabeans, or the Chaldeans. He accepted his losses as God's will and submitted to it.

SUMMATION: Imagine this: You go to work and find out you're fired... You go home and your house is burned to the ground—Nothing is left. Then the police show up and tell you all your children were killed in a car accident. Do you fall on your knees in worship and say, "*Blessed be the name of the Lord?*"

If pain can quench your worship of God, then pain has dethroned God's place in your life.

Why do you worship God? What will it take to make you stop worshipping God?