

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What made Job stand out from other men?
2. Why did God allow Satan to afflict Job so severely?
3. What was Job's reward for faithfulness and patience?
4. How does God prove His children's faith through trials?

SUMMARY:

Job was not only an outstanding man in the time he lived, but few are mentioned in Scripture as being perfect, upright, God-fearing, and eschewing evil as was said of Job. His integrity caught the attention of Satan, the father of all evil. As the sons of God gathered together, Satan also presented himself before God. We get an insight into the contention between God and Satan over the souls of men as we see God reminding Satan of Job's uprightness and Satan crediting this to God's rich blessings upon Job. God allowed Satan to take away Job's possession, loved ones, and health. He also allowed him to tempt Job through his friends and the feeling of being forsaken by God. All this was permitted to prove to Satan that Job was faithful and patient. After much suffering, God intervened and restored Job to his former state, blessing him more than in the beginning with family, friends and possessions.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #6

February 6, 2000

First Quarter

JOB, GOD'S PATIENT SERVANT

LESSON TEXT: *Job 1:1 through 2:13; 42:1-17; James 5:11*

LESSON SETTING: In the Land of Uz.

TIME: Approximately 1520 BC

I. JOB'S INTEGRITY. Job 1:1-12

- A. Perfect. (vs. 8) Matthew 5:48 Colossians 3:14; 1 John 2:5
- B. Upright. Proverbs 10:29; 28:18; Psalm 140:13
- C. Feared God. Deuteronomy 10:12; Matthew 10:28; Job 23:15
- D. Eschew Evil. Psalm 34:14; Proverbs 14:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22

II. JOB'S TESTING. Job 1:13 through 2:13 -- Tested by:

- A. Loss of Possessions. (1:13-17) Genesis 42:1-2; Ruth 1:1; Nehemiah 5:3
- B. Loss of Loved Ones. (1:18-19) Genesis 37:35; Ruth 1:3, 5
- C. Loss of Health. (2:7) 2 Kings 20:1-3; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- D. Delay of God's Help. (Job 2:13) Psalm 13:1; 69:3; John 11:6, 21

III. JOB'S TRIUMPH. Job 42:1-16; James 5:11

- A. Repentance. (vs. 6) Mark 1:15; Acts 3:19; Joel 2:12
- B. Acceptance by God. (vs. 9) Acts 10:35; 2 Corinthians 5:9; Ephesians 1:6
- C. Blessed by God. (James 5:11) Deuteronomy 29:9; Psalm 3:8; Matthew 6:33

GOLDEN TEXT: *NOW THANKS BE UNTO GOD, WHICH ALWAYS CAUSETH US TO TRIUMPH IN CHRIST, AND MAKETH MANIFEST THE SAVOUR OF HIS KNOWLEDGE BY US IN EVERY PLACE.*
2 Corinthians 2:14

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Genesis 11:31 through 12:9; Acts 7:1-8
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Deuteronomy 26:5; Romans 9:1-8

QUARTERLY THEME: The Beginnings

TOPIC: THE BEGINNING OF A NATION

INTRODUCTION:

Of all of Shem's descendants, God chose Abraham to be the father of a great nation. To do this, He asked him to leave his home and relatives and go unto the land that He would show him.

Abraham did as God commanded, asked no questions and in simple faith, obeyed. God promised to make of him a great nation and a great name. Abraham believed God, although he did not live to see the promise fulfilled. He was greatly blessed in multitudes of flocks, herds and servants, but the making of the nation came later. The time from Abraham, until Jacob went to Egypt was 290 years. From that time until the exodus was another 430 years. By that time the descendants of Abraham through Jacob, had increased to a nation of 600,000 men, beside children.

Since then the nation has always existed, although greatly afflicted and at times threatened to become extinct. How graciously God has kept His promise to Abraham in spite of the fact that the nation was disobedient and faithless. The completeness of the promise, however, is still in future, when God shall gather together all of Abraham's seed and truly make a great nation of them and Christ shall be their King.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Separation, explicit faith, and obedience are essential for God's blessing.

GOLDEN TEXT: *AND I WILL MAKE OF THEE A GREAT NATION, AND I WILL BLESS THEE, AND MAKE THY NAME GREAT; AND THOU SHALT BE A BLESSING:* Genesis 12:2

In these few words of promise to Abram, God outlined His plan for a nation of chosen people, and renewed the promise of a Redeemer which had been given to Eve -- a Redeemer not only for His nation, but for all nations in the world. When God set the stage for His plan it required a beginning; it required a man who could have faith in God and His promises, a faith that could be expressed by obedience.

Two generations would pass before the man would be born who would be called Israel, and who would be the beginning of the twelve tribes, which would become God's chosen nation. From one of these tribes would come the Redeemer, in whom the whole world might be blessed. All this was far in the future and surely Abram could not understand or know all that was in God's plan. But he "*believed in the Lord and He counted it to him for righteousness.*" (Genesis 15:6)

If we desire to be citizens of the New Israel, we also, while not knowing all of God's plans for us should walk in faith, knowing that God leads and that His promises are sure.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."
(1 Corinthians 2:9)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF February 7 - 13

- M. *The Beginning of a Nation. Genesis 12:1-9
- T. Abraham in Egypt. Genesis 12:14-20
- W. God Chooses Israel. Deuteronomy 4:32-40
- T. God Confirms the Covenant. Psalm 105:4-14
- F. Abraham Called God's Friend. Isaiah 41:8-20
- S. *God Calls a Man. Acts 7:1-8
- S. God Honors Abraham. Hebrews 11:8-16