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Satan's Power vs God's Power

The Story of Job

Review – Why Jesus Came

- Jesus came to destroy the works of the Devil (1 John 3:8) by providing forgiveness of damning sin (and other things).
- The Devil came to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus came to give eternal life to those who believe in Him.
- Jesus also exposed the devious strategies of the enemy:
 - He taught on the deception of Satan which would increase during the last days on earth (Matthew 24-25)
 - He spoke of the necessity of binding the strong man (Satan)
 - He revealed how Satan tries to prevent the Word of God from being effective in the hearts of men and women (Mark 4:15)
 - He exposed those who were not right with God as being of their "father, the devil" (John 8:44-47).
 - He revealed Satan as the "prince of the world" (John 14:30). ²

Review – Christ Brings Division

- While Jesus came to bring the peace of God (John 14:27; Phil 4:7), and peace with God (Romans 5:1), **His coming also brought division**:
 - ³⁴ "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.
 - ³⁵ For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; ³⁶ and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.'

(Matthew 10:34-36)

- Jesus divided all men into two battle camps. It is not possible to be neutral:
 - No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (mammon means material wealth and greed). (Matthew 6:24)
 - He that is not with me is against me... (Luke 11:23)

Review – 2 Paths – Life or Death

- Jesus spoke of this great division in a story about two paths, one which was straight and narrow and one which was broad. He warned of the deception of Satan's broad path which many took:
 - ¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:13-14).
- Through the account of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), Jesus removed the veil between life and death. He let men see the end result of choosing the wrong way.
- Because He destroyed and exposed the works of Satan, the enemy constantly tried to destroy Him or prevent Him from fulfilling the mission for which He had come. He met the opposition of demonic powers, religious leaders, His own followers, and Satan.
- When you serve and follow Jesus by accepting Him as your Savior, you become part of the army that wars against Satan.

THE BATTLE PLAN

- The basic battle plan for spiritual warfare is based on six major points. These are:
 - 1. The Word Of God (Temptations of Jesus)
 - 2. Faith in the authority Jesus has given believers and the Power of the Holy Spirit to defeat sin
 - 3. Confession & Repentance (being right with God)
 - 4. Prayer & Fasting
 - 5. Obedience (not my will)
 - 6. The Name Of Jesus

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Satan's Power vs God's Power

The Story of Job

Job in Context of Spiritual Warfare

The book of Job provides insight into:

The relationship between God and Satan & God and Man.

Erwin Lutzer Video:

https://zoom.us/rec/play/7pEkJOGurDs3TNaR4wSDUPB4W429e_2shiMd8vsPmhzkWyUCYwX0b7YSY1F0-al6O6w-__BPNUoucDmY?autoplay=true&startTime=1597675930000

Job Background

- Job is the oldest book in the Bible & is considered a wisdom book like Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and James.
- If you were to fit it chronologically, it should be place in the early chapters of Genesis.
- Deals with the age-old problem of the suffering of a righteous man.
- Job & his friends tried to figure out the reason for suffering, but it wasn't until God revealed Himself and Job finally turned from his own to goodness and confessed that he had seen himself to be a wretched sinner that he emerged from the suffering into blessing and restoration.
- Job asks the greatest question of humanity: "How can a man be righteous before God." Job 9:2

4 Great Questions of Job

1. Suffering of the Righteous

- a) Job's suffering made him realize the holiness of God (42:5)
- b) Job's sufferings were corrective, not penial, to refine his character (23:10)
- c) Outcome shows God's grace to those who trust and serve Him (13:15)
- d) Shows the ultimate triumph of God over Satan for the souls of men
- 2. The Invisible God "Oh, that I knew where I might find Him (Job 23:3)
- Human Sin "How can a man be made righteous before God?" (Jon 9:2; 25:4)
- 4. Death & Immortality "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:4)

All Questions are answered by Christ

One Main Principle in Job

Job 1:20-22

Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there.

The Lord giveth, He taketh away,

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

- Never Doubt or Stop Praising God even when terrible things happen in your life that you don't understand.
- Suffering refines Faith Trust in God!

Who is Job?

- 1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.
- ² And seven sons and three daughters were born to him. ³ Also, his possessions were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.
- ⁵ ...Job would ... would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

Job's Character

- Blameless
- Upright
- Feared God
- Shunned evil
- Greatest man in the Land

Job's Life

- Family man
- Wealthy
- Prayed a lot
- Was a godly example to his kids
- Offered regular sacrifices for sin

God & Satan Discuss Job

- ⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God (ANGELS) came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ 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."
- ⁸ 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?"

Heavenly Court

God is charge of court

God's Sovereignty

God initiates discussion

Job Unaware

 Significant that Job had no info about this

Satan's Power

- knows about humans
- Satan has access to heaven & God
- Is not omnipresent prowls "to & fro"

God & Satan Discuss Job

- ⁹ So **Satan** answered the **LORD** and said, "Does Job fear **God** for nothing? ¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"
- ¹² And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person."
- So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Satan's Accusation

 V.10 – Job only fears God because of the blessings he has from God (Job is insincere)

God's Power

- Whatever Satan does, God has allowed it for His purposes.
- Satan's power is limited

Satan is an Accuser

- Zechariah 3:1-2 "Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. The Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan...Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"
- Revelation 12:10-11 "Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night. ¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb (FAITH) and by the word of their testimony (our TESTIMONY IS A SPIRITUAL WEAPON)

Court Scene in Heaven

- Romans 8:1 "There is therefore now <u>no condemnation</u> to those who are in Christ Jesus..."
- Romans 8:33-34 "<u>Who shall bring a charge against God's</u> <u>elect?</u> It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he who <u>condemns?</u> It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."
- 1 John 2:1 if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the <u>Father, Jesus Christ the righteous</u>.² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Job Loses Everything

- ¹³ Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; ¹⁴ and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the **donkeys** feeding beside them, ¹⁵ when the Sabeans raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
- ¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

Satan Brings Rapid-Fire Disasters

Livestock Stolen

Job's Servants Killed

Satan brings fire from heaven to kill Job's sheep

Job Loses Everything

- ⁷ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
- ¹⁸ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, ¹⁹ and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

More Livestock Stolen & Servants Killed

Satan creates Wind storm and Job's Children are Killed

Satan's Power So Far

- Satan knows a lot about you and can watch and listen to what you say.
- Satan can <u>accuse</u> you to God in Heaven
- Satan can use other people to <u>murder</u> and steal from you
- Satan can effect nature!
 - FIRE
 - WIND

Job's Response

- ²⁰ Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. ²¹ And he said:
- "Naked I came from my mother's womb,
 And naked shall I return there.
 The LORD gave, and
 the LORD has taken away;
 Blessed be the name of the LORD."
- ²² In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

Job's Response

- Job responded to the messages of disaster calmly, but when he heard about his children, he greatly grieved.
- Instead of cursing God as Satan predicted he would, he blessed the name of Jehovah.
- Job's faith was not broken.

Song

Blessed Be the Name

https://zoom.us/rec/play/vJ0uJen9rz43Gt2WtASDBvN_W460JqKs0SRLrKUEmUi8AHMHNQagb-FDNudgvYzzJgNIAF-FajuevI6o?autoplay=true&startTime=1597683030000

Satan Attacks Job's Health

- 2 ¹Again 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. ² And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?"
- Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."
- ³ 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 <u>he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause.</u>

Back to Heavenly Court Scene

God affirms that He won this battle.

- Job did nothing to deserve this!! This suffering was for divine purposes!!
- Jesus said in John 15:25
 "They hated Me without a cause."

Satan Attacks Job's Health

- ⁴ So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, <u>all that a man has he will give for his</u> <u>life</u>. ⁵ But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"
- ⁶ And the LORD said to Satan, "<u>Behold, he is in your</u> <u>hand, but spare his life."</u>
- ⁷ 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. ⁸ And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.
- ⁹<u>Then his wife said to him,</u> "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!"
- ¹⁰ But he said to her, "<u>You speak as one of the foolish</u> 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.

Satan Speaks to God

- SKIN FOR SKIN
- Satan asks God to allow him to attack Job's physical body

<u>God permits, but</u> <u>restricts Satan to not</u> <u>take his life</u>

Job's Wife Speaks

• Curse of Eve – Gen 3

Job calls his Wife foolish for rejecting God's will!

Lessons of Job

- 1. When God wants to try a person's faith and bring you closer to Him, nothing is untouchable, even your children. (Abraham & Isaac).
 - Charles Spurgeon "Oh blessed acts of sorrow that cuts a pathway to my God, by chopping down the tall trees of human comfort."
- 2. Loyalty to God is the Issue in Every Trial
 - Satan's challenge to God was to take away Job's blessings and see if he will still worship God.
- 3. Even when we are put into Satan's hand, we are still in the hands of God. When evil men crucified Jesus, He said "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit"
- Events on Earth must be interpreted in light of the Events in Heaven. Job didn't know about the conversation between God and Satan, he had no context or any way to make sense of it.
- 5. It is possible to worship God without Explanations

Job Movie Summary

Movie Clip -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJUsH6IRwD0&list =PLMVISu0JVAbYjH8WTLCSJ2pV3v0Hyo4_t&index=1

Job's Friends Summary

• 1st Friend – Eliphaz – (chapter 3)

- You got what you deserved because of sin.
- 3: 7-8 "Remember now, who ever perished being innocent? Or where were the upright ever cut off?
 ⁸ Even as I have seen, Those who plow iniquity And sow trouble reap the same."

• 2nd Friend – Bildad (chapter 8)

 He essentially say's the same things to Job – He needs to repent of his sin. Job replies in Chapter 9 & 10, and wonders if only he had a mediator or advocate in heaven to bring him and God together.

• 3nd Friend – Zophar (chapter 11)

• He says you are getting off easy.

Job's Friends Mistakes

- They talked without feeling or empathy and were self righteous when judging Job
- They talked without proper knowledge of God:
 - All suffering is because of retribution due to sin. (Jesus taught that this is not the case – John 9)
 - The Righteous always prosper (prosperity gospel)

Sermon on the Mount Teaching

Matthew 7: ¹ "Judge not, that you be not judged...³ And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?... ⁵ Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.



4 Truths About God Revealed

- 1. Whatever God does is Right Chapter 34:5, 10 what about when God doesn't prevent injustices? God is sovereign.
- 2. God does not owe us an explanation Job 4:29
- 3. God is powerful and eternal Job 36:26
- 4. God Controls Nature Job 37:3-7

 "... the highest degree of faith is to believe that He is merciful, though He saves so few and damns so many; to believe that He is just." Martin Luther

God Speaks

- Chapter 38-42 God appears out of a whirlwind
- God asks Job over 40 questions (Jesus also asked many people questions that resulted in conviction of sin)
 - 4 "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?
 - ▹ ⁵ Who determined its measurements?
 - ⁶ To what were its foundations fastened?
 - ⁸ "Or who shut in the sea with doors,
 - ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you?
 - ²² "Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail,
 - ²⁴ By what way is light diffused, Or the east wind scattered over the earth?
 - ➢ ³⁵ Can you send out lightnings, that they may go,
 - > ³⁶ Who has put wisdom in the mind?

God is in Control of Everything

Job's Repentance and Restoration

- Chapter 42:2
- Then Job answered the LORD and said:
- ² "I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.
- Job still did not know why he suffered so much, but he quit complaining, questioning and challenging God's wisdom and justice and he bowed in humble submission to God and confessed and repented of his sin.
- He was restored of everything he had and even more!

God's Grace is Sufficient

<u>Song - https://zoom.us/rec/play/uplodL38-2k3G9KQ4wSDV6B-W9W8Lqus1SZM_fBemky8WyYKNQGkN-YVY7DC9GR88PnhwtjWqN3t_AF9?autoplay=true&startTime=1597683375000</u>