

A.M. OUTLINE
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THE 5 TESTS OF JOB'S FAITH

(Job 1:6-12)

1. TEST OF PROSPERITY

Rich spiritually: (1:1) "that man was blameless and upright, feared God and shunned evil"

Rich in children: (v2) "7 sons and 3 daughters were born to him"

Rich in substance: (v3) "his possessions were ... "

Rich in servants: (v3) "and a very large household"

Rich in the land: (v3) "this man was the greatest of all the people of the East"

Job remains faithful: (v5) "he would rise early ... offer burnt offerings ... regularly"

Our prosperity will test us: (1 Timothy 6:6-12, v17-19)

2. TEST OF POVERTY - Satan throws the opposite at Job

Loss of substance: (1:13-17) "stolen ... fire ... took them away ... killed"

Loss of children: (v18-20) "house, it fell on the young people, and they are dead"

Loss of health: (2:4-8) "and struck Job with painful boils"

(1:20 and 2:10) "in all this Job did not sin with his lips"

Our loss of possessions will test us: (Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:15)

3. TEST OF PERSECUTION

His wife: (2:9-10) "Curse God and die"

His 3 friends: (2:11-13) "... came to mourn and comfort him ... wept ... sprinkled dust on their heads ... 7 days ... silence ... saw that his grief was great"

Their mourning and comforting silence did not last long.

Eliphaz: (4:7-8) "those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same"

Bildad: (8:3-6) "If you were pure and upright ... "

Zophar: (11:1-6) "know therefore that God exacts from you less than your iniquity deserves" ("You deserve worse, Job")

With friends like that, who needs enemies? Job answers in chapter 19.

4. TEST OF PERPLEXITY

It's one thing to maintain faith when everything makes sense; however, it is quite another when seemingly nothing makes sense.

(Job 13:15) "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (note James 5:11)

5. TEST OF POWER

Now Job's "friends" are in need of forgiveness from Job.

The story concludes: (Job 42:7-17)

A blessing in the teaching of Jesus: (Matthew 5:10-12)