

## When All Hell Breaks Loose!

Lesson 4 • Job 1:6-22

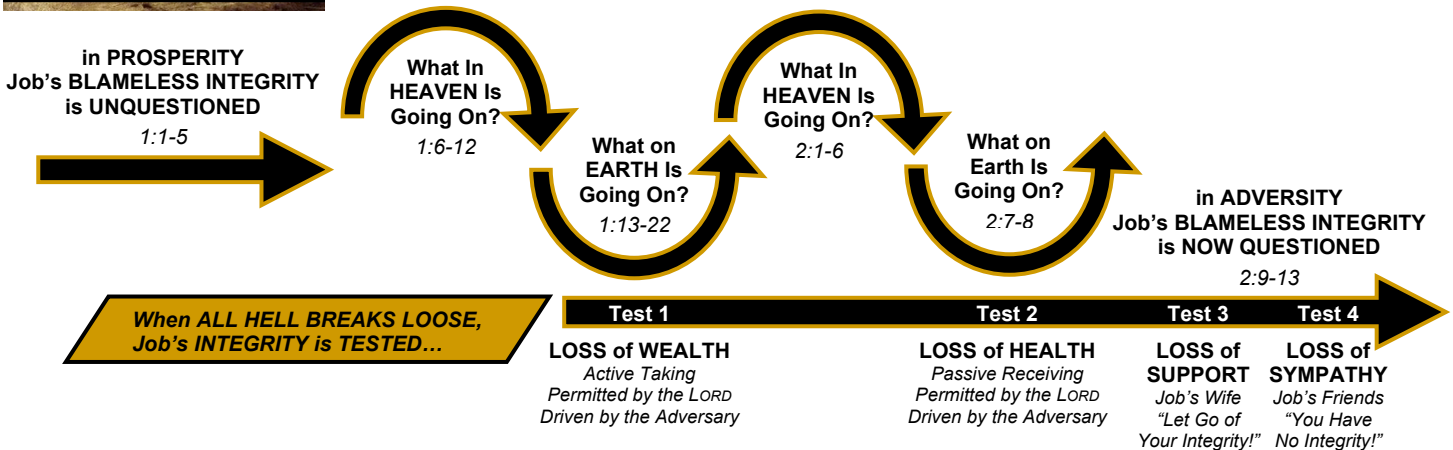
*There comes a time in every life when all hell breaks loose!*

*It happens to all of us.*

*One way or another tragedy touches every one of us and sooner or later we are going to ask...*

### What On Earth (and Beyond) is Going On When All Hell Breaks Loose?

Job 1:6—2:13



#### What Is God Trying to Tell Us by This Structure?

- 1) We will never understand what on earth is going on without divine **REVELATION** from heaven!
- 2) How we **RESPOND** on earth when all hell breaks loose matters in heaven!

#### What On Earth (and Beyond) Is Happening When All Hell Breaks Loose in Job 1:1-22?

##### 1. What On Earth Is Happening BEFORE All Hell Breaks Loose? (1:1-5)

- Yahweh's servant is **ENJOYING/BLESSED WITH** unequalled prosperity, while maintaining his blameless integrity. (1:1-5)

##### 2. What In Heaven Is Happening BEFORE All Hell Breaks Loose? (1:6-12)

- Yahweh **CHALLENGES** the Adversary to consider the blameless integrity of His servant, Job.

- 1) Yahweh challenges the Adversary's **presence in heaven** with a question about his destructive activity. (1:7)

**Yahweh:** "So what brings you here? What have you been up to?"

**The Adversary:** "Prowling all over the planet like a predator looking for prey."

*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls (= walking) around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." 1Peter 5:8*

- 2) Yahweh challenges the Adversary's **purpose on earth** with a question about Job's blameless integrity. (1:8)

**Yahweh:** "Have you checked out My servant Job? For there is no one like him on earth..."

- The Adversary **CRITICIZES** the motivation behind Job's blameless integrity with slanderous questions.

- 1) The Adversary **ACCUSES** Yahweh's servant and Yahweh Himself of being selfish by questioning their motivation. (1:9-10)

**The Adversary:** "Does Job fear You for nothing? Doesn't he profit from worshipping You?"

**The Adversary:** "Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land."

- 2) The Adversary **ARROGANTLY** orders Yahweh to reach out **His hand** and destroy Job's prosperity to reveal the true motives of Job's heart. (1:11)

**The Adversary:** "But put forth **YOUR** hand now and **TOUCH** all that he has; he will surely curse **YOU** to **YOUR** face."

The Question of Motivation: Why Do We Fear God and Worship Him?

**The SELFISH Motivation of the Prosperity Gospel:** Because of **what** God gives us and **how** He bribes us!

**The SACRIFICIAL Motivation of the Persevering Gospel:** Because of **who** God is and **how** His grace has changed us!

- Yahweh gives the Adversary **CONSENT** to reach out **his hand** to destroy Job's prosperity (wealth)!

*This is not a **wager** but **warfare!** This is not a **bet** but a **battle!***

*This is a **mystery** that no one can fully understand or explain: God **does** grant Satan limited opportunity to bring painful and deadly adversity!  
Compare what Satan says in 1:11 and 2:5 with what God says in 1:12 and 2:6*

What Does This Mean?

- 1) God is in **ultimate control** of all things but is **never directly responsible** for the evil that He permits.
- 2) Satan and others are **directly responsible and accountable** for the adversity and evil they do on earth.
- 3) Nothing **comes into our lives** from the Adversary that **does not first pass through** the LORD's purposeful and merciful hands.

### 3. What On Earth Is Happening **WHEN** All Hell Breaks Loose? (1:13-19)

- The Adversary **ATTACKS** Job from every direction with all the forces at his disposal in a single day.
- Job **LOSES EVERYTHING** he possesses and all that is precious to him in less than an hour!

### 4. What On Earth Is Happening **AFTER** All Hell Breaks Loose? (1:20-21)

- God's blameless servant expresses his **SORROW (woe/anguish)** with **actions** of grief.
- God's blameless servant expresses his **SUBMISSION (worship/adoration)** with **words** of praise.

**"Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there."**

I don't deserve to get anything from God and I don't deserve to keep anything from Him either!

**"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away."**

God owns everything and owes no one anything!

**"Blessed be the name of the LORD."**

Far from cursing God – Job blesses Him by praising His holy character as the Ever-present Redeemer and Promise Keeper!

**"Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God."**

## What On Earth (and Beyond) Is Happening When All Hell Breaks Loose?

1. God is **DISPLAYING** His glory through the life response of His blameless, suffering servant.
2. God is **DEFEATING/DISARMING** His adversary through the life response of His blameless, suffering servant.

### So When All Hell Breaks Loose...

1. Allow the grief process to occur, letting your the tears flow freely.
2. Choose to worship God with a surrendered heart and submissive spirit.
3. Fix your mind on the eternal perspective of biblical reality.
4. Place your trust in the mercy of God's majesty, even though it's a mystery.
5. Refuse to let bitterness blind you to the goodness of God's character. (= His name).