



When All Hell Breaks Loose AGAIN!

Lesson 5 • Job 2:1-10

Sometimes ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE and moves on.

It hurts. It shocks us. It knocks us down, but we get up and move on.

But sometimes lightening strikes twice and the damage done stays and lingers. Sometimes all hell breaks loose...and IT STAYS! MISERY LASTS for MONTHS, EVEN YEARS and we ask...

What On Earth (and Beyond) is Going On When All Hell Breaks Loose... AGAIN and LINGERS?

Job 2:1-10

1. What On Earth Is Happening BEFORE All Hell Breaks Loose AGAIN? (1:20-22)

- Yahweh's servant is **BLESSING** Yahweh in the midst of undeserved adversity with blameless integrity.

So Why the Second Test?

- Life is **WARFARE!** *Spiritual warfare consists of repeated battles even though Jesus Christ has already won the war.*
- Pride is **BLIND!** *The Adversary's proud heart blinds him to the reality of true worship and the victory of Jesus.*
- God is **GOD!** His judgments are wise but unsearchable and His ways are gracious but unfathomable.

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

- AGAIN Yahweh **CHALLENGES** the Adversary to consider the blameless integrity of His servant, Job. (2:1-3)
 - 1) Again Yahweh challenges the Adversary's **presence in heaven** with a question about **his destructive activity**. (2:2)
 - 2) Again Yahweh challenges the Adversary's **purpose on earth** with a question about **Job's blameless integrity**. (2:3a)
 - 3) Now Yahweh challenges the Adversary's **persecution of Job** with a statement about **Job's blameless integrity**. (2:3b)

"And he still holds fast his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause." (NAS)
"And he still holds firmly to his integrity, so that you stirred me up to destroy him without reason." (NET)

- AGAIN the Adversary **CRITICIZES** the motivation behind Job's blameless integrity with more slanderous attacks. (2:4-5)
 - 1) Again the Adversary **accuses** Yahweh's servant and Yahweh Himself of still being **SELFISH** by again **attacking** their motivation. (2:4)
 - 2) Again the Adversary **arrogantly** orders Yahweh to reach out **His hand** and destroy Job's **HEALTH** to reveal his true motive. (2:5)

The Adversary: *"However, put forth Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh; he will curse You to Your face."*

Again the Question of Motivation Is Raised: Why Do We Fear God and Worship Him?
 The **SELFISH** Motivation of the Prosperity Gospel OR the **SACRIFICIAL** Motivation of the Persevering Gospel?

- AGAIN Yahweh gives the Adversary **CONSENT** to reach out **his hand** to destroy Job's health but without killing him!

3. What On Earth Is Happening WHEN All Hell Breaks Loose AGAIN? (2:6-7)

- The Adversary **SWIFTLY ATTACKS** Job with a serious skin disease from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet!

Diagnosis is inconclusive... Some sort of malignant skin disease that covered his entire body!

Symptoms are hideous... We have no idea if the following symptoms describe a single disease or multiple complications.

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| 1) Inflamed ulcerous sore from head to toe (2:7) | 10) Difficulty breathing (9:18) |
| 2) Persistent itching (2:8) | 11) Dark circles around the eyes or failing vision (16:16) |
| 3) Loss of appetite (3:24) | 12) Foul breath or rejection by loved ones who wished him dead (19:17; 2:9) |
| 4) Uncontrolled sobbing with a flushed face (3:24; 16:16) | 13) Extreme weight loss – literally skin and bones (19:20; 33:21) |
| 5) Sleeplessness (7:3-4) | 14) Relentless, searing pain deep in the bones (30:17, 27, 30) |
| 6) Terrifying nightmares and hallucinations (7:3, 13-14) | 15) Blackening and falling off of skin (30:28, 30) |
| 7) Sores that burst open, ooze with pus, crack, and scab over (7:5) | 16) Burning fever (30:30) |
| 8) Maggots and worms that formed in the sores themselves (7:5) | 17) Disfiguration (2:12 No longer recognizable by his friends from a distance) |
| 9) Depressing fears and anxieties (3:35; 7:16; 17:1; 30:15) | 18) Lingered for many months (7:3; 29:2) |

- Job **RECEIVES** a lingering sickness that could lead to death in addition to all that was **taken away** from him previously.

4. What On Earth Is Happening AFTER All Hell Breaks Loose AGAIN? (2:8-10)

- God's blameless servant experiences his **SICKNESS** with **acts** of physical relief and personal grief. (2:8)

An Act of Physical Relief: *"And he took a potsherd to scrape himself..."*

An Act of Personal Grief: *"...while he was sitting among the ashes."*

Sitting with Job on the Ash Heap of Lingering Sickness...

- 1) We experience personal **ISOLATION and SECLUSION**.
- 2) We experience profound **SEPARATION and possibly REJECTION**
- 3) We experience powerful **HUMILIATION and possibly CONDEMNATION**.
- 4) We experience painful **DEPRIVATION and CONFUSION**.

- God's blameless servant expresses his **SUBMISSION** with **words** of acceptance. (2:9-10)

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die!"

Ironically his wife uses the exact same words of Yahweh and His Adversary in speaking to her husband!

But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks.

Job warns his wife that her question and counsel is foolish and reflects a lack of faith in God!

"Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?"

The persevering gospel willingly receives both prosperity and adversity from the hand of the gracious, wise, and loving God who is sovereign over both!

In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Does this mean Job is wavering in his heart? Or does it mean that Job is speaking out of the abundance of his heart? *Matthew 12:34; Proverbs 4:23*

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

God is **still DISPLAYING** His glory and **still DEFEATING** His adversary through the life response of His blameless, suffering servant.

When All Hell Breaks Loose with Lingering Sickness

- 1) Seeking medical or physical relief is not a lack of trust in the Lord to heal.

"No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments." 1 Timothy 5:23

- 2) Feelings of separation and shame often surface that need consoling from God's people.

"Bright eyes gladden the heart; Good news puts fat on the bones." Proverbs 15:30

- 3) Comforting the sick calls for wisdom in speaking hope and offering help.

"Singing cheerful songs to a person with a heavy heart is like taking someone's coat in cold weather or pouring vinegar in a wound." Proverbs 25:20 (NLT)
"Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, But a good word makes it glad." Proverbs 12:25

- 4) Suffering such illness is never outside of God's sovereign purposes of displaying His glory and showing us mercy.

"[Jesus] said, "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it." John 11:4
"For...he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow." Phil 2:27
"Jesus answered, 'It was neither that this [blind] man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.'" John 9:3

- 5) Accepting such adversity with a surrendered heart and submissive spirit always glorifies God and demonstrates our faith in His sovereign, wise, and gracious purposes.

"Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" ~Job at the onset of his lingering sickness