### Job

## Chapter 1

1There was a certain man named Job who lived in the land of the AuSitidi.  
  
He was true, blameless, righteous, God fearing, and he distanced himself from all that was wicked. 2He had seven sons, three daughters, and he also had:  
  
 • 7,000 sheep,  
 • 3,000 camels,  
 • 500 teams of oxen, and  
 • 500 grazing female burros.  
  
In addition, he had a huge work force to serve him, and many more to care for his land... 3For the man had been born into a prosperous family from the sunrise in the east.  
  
4[Job’s] sons prepared banquets for each other each day, and their three sisters were always invited to eat and drink with them. 5Then, after all the banqueting was done, Job would get up early each morning to purify them. He offered sacrifices on their behalf, which included a calf as a sin offering for their lives.  
  
As Job said:  
  
 ‘[I’m doing this] just in case my children even think something bad about God.’  
  
And that’s how Job always did things.  
  
6Then one day, {Look!} the [angelic] messengers of God went to stand before Jehovah, and the Opposer came along with them.  
  
7So, Jehovah asked the Opposer:  
  
 ‘Where have you come from?’  
  
And the Opposer replied to Jehovah:  
  
 ‘I’ve been on the earth, walking around everywhere under the sky.’  
  
8Then Jehovah asked him:  
  
 ‘Have you noticed and thought about My child Job? There’s no one else like him on the earth, because he’s blameless, true, God fearing, and he distances himself from anything that’s bad.’  
  
9So the Opposer stood up before Jehovah and said:  
  
 ‘Is Job really free to bow before You, Jehovah?  
  
 10‘Haven’t You protected him and all in his household from anything that might be harmful to him? You’ve blest everything he does, and You’ve provided huge herds of cattle for him that cover the entire land!  
  
 11‘However, if You were to just reach out Your hand and touch all the things that he has, then he’d surely rave against You to Your face!’  
  
12Then Jehovah said to the Opposer:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’m putting everything he has into your hands… Just don’t touch him personally.’  
  
And at that, the Opposer left the presence of Jehovah.  
  
  
13Well, on that day, all of Job’s sons and daughters had all been enjoying wine in the house of their older brother. 14But then, {Look!} a messenger came to Job and told him:  
  
 ‘We were plowing with the teams of oxen, and the female burros were grazing nearby, 15when slavers came and took them all and killed all your servants with swords!  
  
 ‘I’m the only one who escaped, so I could bring this message to you!’  
  
16Then while he was still speaking, another messenger arrived and said to Job:  
  
 ‘Lightning came out of the sky and burned up all the sheep! And the shepherds were destroyed the same way!  
  
 ‘I’m the only one who escaped, so I came to report it to you!’  
  
17And while he was still speaking, another messenger arrived and said to Job:  
  
 ‘Three companies of mounted troops attacked us, then they rounded up the camels and took them, and they killed all your servants with swords!  
  
 ‘I was the only one who escaped, so I’ve come to report this to you!’  
  
18Well, while that one was still speaking, another messenger arrived and told Job:  
  
 ‘Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking with their older brother, 19when a tornado came towards them from out of the desert and touched down on the four corners of his house and destroyed it, killing all your children!  
  
 ‘I’m the only one who escaped, and I came to report it to you!’  
  
20And with that, Job got up and started ripping his clothes, then he cut all the hair off his head, and he bowed all the way to the ground and said:  
  
 21‘I came from my mother’s belly naked and I’ll return there naked… Jehovah gave it, and Jehovah took it away.  
  
 ‘So, what seems good to Jehovah has come to pass.  
  
 ‘May the Name of the Lord be praised!’  
  
22Well, despite all of these terrible things that happened to him, Job didn’t sin against Jehovah a single time, nor did he accuse God of foolishness.