### Job

## Chapter 2

1Then on another day, when God’s [angelic] messengers came to stand before Jehovah, the Opposer once more came among them to stand before the Lord. 2And Jehovah asked the Opposer:  
  
 ‘So, where have you come from?’  
  
And the Opposer again replied:  
  
 ‘I’ve been on the earth, walking around everywhere under the sky.’  
  
3So Jehovah asked him:  
  
 ‘Have you been paying attention to my child Job? For there are no others like him on the earth. He’s not a wicked man… He’s true, blameless, God fearing, and he avoids anything that’s evil, so he’s still innocent.  
  
 ‘However, you told me [that he wouldn’t remain faithful] if everything he had was destroyed without a reason.’  
  
4Then the Opposer said to Jehovah:  
  
 ‘Skin for skin… A man will give everything he has for his life! 5For a fact, if You send Your hand to touch his flesh and bones, he’ll surely rave against You to Your face!’  
  
6And Jehovah replied to the Opposer:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’m giving him to you… Just don’t take his life!’  
  
7So the Opposer left Jehovah and struck Job with terrible sores from his head to his feet. 8And as a result, [Job] had to carry a broken piece of pottery to scrape the pus as he sat in a pile of ashes.  
  
9Then his wife asked him:  
  
 ‘How much longer are you going to endure this?  
  
 ‘Just speak a word to God and end it!’  
  
10But he looked at her and said:  
  
 ‘Why are you acting like such a foolish woman? If we’ve looked for good things from the hand of Jehovah, shouldn’t we also endure the bad?’  
  
  
11Then, when three of his friends heard of all the bad things that had happened to him, they each came from their lands to see him. There was:  
  
 • EliPhaz the Temanite (a king),  
 • Baldad the Shuhite (a sovereign ruler),  
 • and Zophar the Minaean (a king).  
  
They had all come to visit him for the purpose of comforting him.  
  
12However, as they approached, they didn’t even recognize him! So they each started shouting, crying, ripping their clothes, and throwing dust in the air.  
  
13Then they all sat down beside him for seven days and seven nights without speaking a word... For they recognized that this was a terrible calamity, which was much worse than anything they’d anticipated.