

Job's Inconvenient Truth:

At Times Life Is Painful
At Times Life Isn't Fair
At Times God Disappoints Us

Questions Raised in Job:

- 1. Is God Unfair?
- 2. Is God Silent?
- 3. Is God Hidden?

The story of Job isn't a story about great suffering.

It is a story of great faith in the face of great suffering.

In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was <u>blameless</u> and <u>upright</u>; he <u>feared</u> God and <u>shunned</u> evil.

Job 1:1 NIV

At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship and said:

Job 1:20 NIV

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."

Job 1:21 NIV

In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Job 1:22 NIV

Job Loses His Health

His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!"

Job 2:9 NIV

Our incomplete ideas about God often collapse under the weight of the real world.

He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

Job 2:10 NIV

Job's Friends Arrive

After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth.

Job 3:1 NIV

What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me.

I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil."

Job 3:26-26 NIV

"Though I cry, 'Violence!' I get no response; though I call for help, there is no justice. He has blocked my way so I cannot pass; he has shrouded my paths in darkness.

Job 19:7-8 NIV

He has stripped me of my honor and removed the crown from my head. He tears me down on every side till I am gone; he uproots my hope like a tree.

Job 19:9-10 NIV

His anger burns against me; he counts me among his enemies. His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and encamp around my tent.

Job 19:11-12 NIV

"He has alienated my family from me; my acquaintances are completely estranged from me. My relatives have gone away; my closest friends have forgotten me.

Job 19:13-14 NIV

"Even today my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. If only I knew where to find him; if only I could go to his dwelling!

Job 23:2-3 NIV

I would state my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. I would find out what he would answer me, and consider what he would say to me.

Job 23:4-5 NIV

"But if I go to the east, he is not there; if I go to the west, I do not find him. When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him.

Job 23:8-9 NIV

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold. My feet have closely followed his steps; I have kept to his way without turning aside.

Job 23:10-11 NIV

Job saw the darkest side of life, heard the deepest silence, and still believed.

I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.

Job 23:12 NIV

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm....

Job 38:1 NIV

Then Job replied to the Lord: "I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted... My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

Job 42:1-2, 6 NIV

Don't confuse life with God.

God can handle the honesty about your pain.

God is interested in a faith that believes when there is no good reason to believe.

God will not prevent pain, but God can redeem the pain.

Don't turn an unanswered prayer into unconcerned God nor confuse the circumstances around you with how God feels about you.

Your Heavenly Father knows about you, He's there with you, He cares for you, and He has a plan for your life.

When I can't see His hand, when I can't hear His voice, and when I can't feel His presence, I will trust His heart.

Even if I lose it all, He is enough.