Bible Study 33

March 16th, 2022

Job

The Book of Job is a part of the Old Testament that we call Wisdom Literature. They are books compose largely between the year 700 to 400BC, several while Israel were salves in Exile in Babylon.

The Book of Job is different than all the other Books because it is a contrived story written to teach a lesson. It is hard to think of a story that we could in our day compare that serves the same purpose. The only one I can think of is “The Wizard of Oz.”---It was a much loved movie where each of the characters were deficient in some way, but loved nonetheless.

The Book of Job is a story written in a fictional way. It speaks of a rich man named Job who has seven sons and three daughters. He also has seven thousand sheep; three thousand camels; five hundred yoke of oxen; and five hundred donkeys. He also had many servants.

The Book of Job asks three questions:

1. Why does God allow innocent people to suffer?
2. Who is God?
3. Who and what am I as a man?

In order to answer these questions, the author writes the story in the form of a play. It is a play that has a beginning a middle and an end.

The beginning:

In the beginning the Angels, Satan and God are engaged in a dialogue. God boosts of Job as the perfect man, while the devil challenges God to take everything away from Job and see if Job will still love God or turn away from him.

God accepts the challenge and tells Satan to take everything away from Job, but not to lay one finger upon him.

* First all of Jobs Oxen and Donkeys are carried off by robbers.
* Then his servants are killed.
* Fire falls from heaven and burns up all his sheep.
* All the camels are carried off by strangers.
* A mighty wind blows from the desert destroys Jobs house and kills his sons and daughters.

Job’s response:

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I shall depart.”

“The Lord gave and the Lord taken away. May the name of the Lord be praised.”

In all of this Job did not sin, but praised the Lord. This is the first chapter of the Book of Job