



Series: Storms
An Audience with the Almighty
Job 42:1-6
Speaker: Pastor Jeff Bucknam

Check out the sermon here: <https://northview.org/an-audience-with-the-almighty/>

A Note from Pastor Dan: Hello! Welcome to our sermon reflection. This is intended for you to spend time reflecting upon the weekend teaching of God’s Word. So, it’s important to have watched or listened to the message from the previous weekend. In the coming weeks, I would encourage you to use one of our Sermon Guides as you watch/listen to the sermon in order to keep focused and to note important information. As you work through this lesson, feel free to ask your parents any questions and include them in your observations.

**Quotes from Jeff’s sermon will be outlined in this colour.

⇒ **Opening Illustration:** Jeff shared account of famous theologian R.C. Sproul’s daughter’s child being stillborn

⇒ **Point:** It is normal to wonder where God is in such circumstances

- “Why is this happening?”
- “Why does this happen to people who follow God?”
- “Why does God not answer? It seems like there is a grand silence, prayers bounce off ceiling”
- If only we had an audience with our Almighty God

► **READ Job 1:1-5 (NLT)**
Prologue

1 There once was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless—a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.² He had seven sons and three daughters. ³ He owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 teams of oxen, and 500 female donkeys. He also had many servants. He was, in fact, the richest person in that entire area.

⁴ Job's sons would take turns preparing feasts in their homes, and they would also invite their three sisters to celebrate with them. ⁵ When these celebrations ended—sometimes after several days—Job would purify his children. He would get up early in the morning and offer a burnt offering for each of them. For Job said to himself, "Perhaps my children have sinned and have cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular practice.

Description of Job

- The book begins with how faithful, kind and generous Job is
- He's really concerned about his & his family's standing before God
- He does everything that he can to make sure his family is following God

► READ Job 1:6-22 (NLT)

Job's First Test

⁶ One day the members of the heavenly court^[a] came to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan,^[b] came with them. ⁷ "Where have you come from?" the Lord asked Satan. Satan answered the Lord, "I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that's going on."

⁸ Then the Lord asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil."

⁹ Satan replied to the Lord, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. ¹⁰ You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! ¹¹ But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!"

¹² "All right, you may test him," the Lord said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the Lord's presence.

- Satan's challenge to God is that Job is only faithful because God has always "put a wall of protection around him"
- Satan challenges God to allow Satan to have his way and Job will "curse in your face"
- God's response to Satan, **I'll take that bet**

► READ Job 1: 13-22

¹³ One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁴ a messenger arrived at Job's home with this news: "Your oxen were plowing, with the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵ when the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

¹⁷ While he was still speaking, a third messenger arrived with this news: "Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."

¹⁸ While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "Your sons and daughters were feasting in their oldest brother's home. ¹⁹ Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in

from the wilderness and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.”

²⁰ Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship. ²¹ He said,

*“I came naked from my mother’s womb,
and I will be naked when I leave.*

*The Lord gave me what I had,
and the Lord has taken it away.*

Praise the name of the Lord!”

²² In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.

- Imagine this experience, where Job seems to lose everything that is special to him in moments
- What would you do? Would you question God’s motives, His care for you, His existence?
- And yet in all this ***Job did not sin by blaming God.***

► **READ Job 2:7-9 (NLT)**

⁷ So Satan left the Lord’s presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

⁸ Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes. ⁹ His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.”

- Next God allows Satan to physically afflict him with terrible boils
- Even Job’s wife has given up on God
- And yet Job still does not curse God

► **Read Job 2:11-13**

- Job’s friends show up and sit with him in solidarity for three days, being respectful of his anguish and suffering.

¹³ Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. No one said a word to Job, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words.

- And then it gets nasty! And Job’s friends start putting forth arguments that it must be Job’s fault that he is suffering.
- Job must deserve this because of his bad behaviour

► **READ Job 22:4-11 (NLT)**

⁴ Is it because you’re so pious that he accuses you and brings judgment against you ⁵ No, it’s because of your wickedness! There’s no limit to your sins. ⁶ “For example, you must have lent money to your friend and demanded clothing as security. Yes, you stripped him to the bone.

⁷ You must have refused water for the thirsty and food for the hungry. ⁸ You probably think the land belongs to the powerful and only the privileged have a right to it! ⁹ You must have sent widows away empty-handed and crushed the hopes of orphans. ¹⁰ That is why you are surrounded by traps and tremble from sudden fears. ¹¹ That is why you cannot see in the darkness, and waves of water cover you.

- Job is adamant that his suffering is not due to anything that he has done!

► **Job 31:35-37 (NLT)**

³⁵ “If only someone would listen to me! Look, I will sign my name to my defense. Let the Almighty answer me. Let my accuser write out the charges against me. ³⁶ I would face the accusation proudly. I would wear it like a crown. ³⁷ For I would tell him exactly what I have done. I would come before him like a prince.

⇒ **Then God responds to Job in ch 38-40 from a whirlwind! And God puts forth 70 plus questions questioning Job as to who Job is to think that he could question God?**

► **Job 42:1-6 (NLT)**

Job Responds to the Lord

I Then Job replied to the Lord: ² “I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. ³ You asked, ‘Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?’ It is I—and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me. ⁴ You said, ‘Listen and I will speak! I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.’ ⁵ I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. ⁶ I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance.”

• **3 lessons that we can learn regarding God & our suffering**

1. **God is sovereign over our suffering**

- People try to say that God is not actually in control of everything that happens in creation. That He is “surprised” by events in the world. But the book of Job clearly doesn’t portray God in this way at all.

2. **God has reasons for our suffering**

- Just because you don’t understand why something is happening, does not mean that it is out of God’s control or purposes.

3. **God is ultimately the answer to our suffering**

- Your entire life is a track record of God working through it, He is sanctifying us, growing us more and more into the image of Christ.

► **Romans 8:31 (NLT)**

Nothing Can Separate Us from God’s Love

³¹ *What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?*

► **Ephesians 1:4-8 (NLT)**

⁴ *Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son.^[a] ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.*

► **Digging In**

1. Job knows that God can do all things and His plans can't be thwarted. Look up the following passages and make note of what they tell us about God's will.

Ephesians 1:11-12

Genesis 50:19-20

Acts 4:27-28

2. In light of God's self-revelation, Job has a clearer understanding of who God is and has gained confidence in the character and will of God, despite all the suffering he endured.

- How can a mistaken understanding of who God is diminish hope amidst “storms” of life?
- How does a proper understanding of who God is give us hope in our “storms”?
