

Job 2

Verses 1- 6

Again, there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord.

² The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." ³ The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man fearing God and turning away from evil. And he still holds firm to his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause." ⁴ Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has, he will give for his life. ⁵ However, reach out with Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh; he will curse You to Your face!" ⁶ So the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life."

Again, there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord.

A similar event took place in chapter one, but we don't know how much time has passed since that time. It is possible that the angels present themselves before the Lord on a regular basis but we are clueless about what God might be doing. If anyone claims to know what is going on in heaven then back away from them as quickly as possible. ☺

² The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

This was the same reply in chapter one and we know this is what Satan does.

See 1 Peter 5:8

⁸ **Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**

We don't know if this was a special revelation from the Lord or if Peter was simply restating what was written in Job1:7 and here in Job 2:2.

³ The Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man fearing God and turning away from evil. And he still holds firm to his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause.”

God cannot be incited to do wrong or sin so what is He saying to Satan in this verse? Here God is reminding Satan that the desire to harm Job came from him (Satan). It is true that God allowed Satan to do it, but God has given the angels and mankind free will and to stop all evil from taking place God would have to nullify the gift of free will. So Satan and evil men will continue to harm the sons of God (believers) until the end of time. Then Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and those who follow him.

⁴ Satan answered the Lord and said, “Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has, he will give for his life. ⁵ However, reach out with Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh; he will curse You to Your face!” ⁶ So the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life.”

Satan tells God to reach out his hand and harm Job, because he wants to shift the blame for Job’s suffering onto God but God is quick to remind him (Satan) that Job is in his power so any harm done to Job is his (Satan’s) responsibility.

There is no doubt that Satan desired to destroy (kill) Job but Satan was limited to what God would allow. So Satan’s free will was limited but not taken away. This was true when the King of Egypt decided he finally wanted to repent but scripture says that the Lord hardened his heart. In three cases the Kings free will was temporarily preempted so all 10 plagues would be completed. God being the creator has the right to limit or preempt anyone’s free will so that His will might be done. We should all thank God that Satan has been chained (limited) in what he can do or none of the human race would survive his attacks.

Verses 7 - 10

⁷ Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with severe boils from the sole of his foot to the top of his head. ⁸ And Job took a piece of pottery to scrape himself while he was sitting in the ashes.

⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold firm your integrity? Curse God and die!” ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You are speaking as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we actually accept good from God but not accept adversity?” Despite all this, Job did not sin with his lips.

⁷ Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with severe boils from the sole of his foot to the top of his head.

Some scholars have identified the disease that Job was inflicted with as Elephantiasis. They base this on the various symptoms mentioned in the Book of Job

See pic 205

Job's disease		
Num	Symptom	Verse(s)
1	The disfiguration of his appearance	2:12
2	Feelings of terror	3:25; 6:40
3	Maggots breeding in his sores	7:5
4	Terrible dreams and horrible nightmares	7:14
5	A sensation of strangulation	7:15
6	His bad breath	19:17
7	His skin falling off	Job 30:30

Whatever the disease was, it was awful.

⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold firm your integrity? Curse God and die!” ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You are speaking as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we actually accept good from God but not accept adversity?” Despite all this, Job did not sin with his lips.

His wife might have said what she said out of compassion hoping that his death by Gods hand would be quick rather than seeing him suffer through a protracted sickness that would eventually end in death.

But Job answered her with a mild rebuke suggesting her comment was foolishness rather than unbelief.

Job was a man of great faith and he demonstrated it when he said, “**Shall we actually accept good from God but not accept adversity**”?

See Hebrews 12:4 – 11

⁴ You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; ⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons,

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,

Nor faint when you are punished by Him;

⁶ For whom the Lord loves He disciplines,

And He punishes every son whom He accepts.”

⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline? ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected *them*; shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined *us* for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ For the moment, all discipline seems not to be pleasant, but painful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

Verses 11 - 14

¹¹ Now when Job’s three friends heard about all this adversity that had come upon him, they came, each one from his own place—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and comfort him. ¹² When they looked from a distance and did not recognize him, they raised their voices and wept. And each of them tore his robe, and they threw dust over their heads toward the sky.

¹³ Then they sat down on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights, with no one speaking a word to him, for they saw that *his* pain was very great.

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These three men came to sympathize and comfort their good friend Job.

¹² **When they looked from a distance and did not recognize him, they raised their voices and wept.** And each of them tore his robe, and they threw dust over their heads toward the sky.

The disfigurement of Job could be seen from a distance and it was bad enough to bring his friends to tears.

¹³ **Then they sat down on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights, with no one speaking a word to him,** for they saw that *his* pain was very great.

At this point Job's friends did what any true friend would do in a case like this and they should be given high praise for responding as they did. However, after this initial week of solidarity with their friend they will shortly open their mouths and speak in a way that defies all common sense. For that they deserve the ridicule that they often receive.