

# *IF GOD IS GOOD, WHY???*



# OLD TESTAMENT THEODICY



*Genesis 1 and 2*

*Seven Days*

*It was **GOOD***

***VERY GOOD***

*Knowledge of Good & Evil*

*Potential Evil and*

*Death*



# *THE SOURCE OF EVIL*

## **The Lie, the Fall, the Curse Genesis 3**



**YOU SHALL  
BE AS GODS**

**LUCIFER**



# *EVIL MULTIPLIES*

## **Cain, Lamech, Noah, Babel**

### **Genesis 4-10**

**Sacrifice**

**Murder**

**God's Regret**

**Greatest Catastrophe**

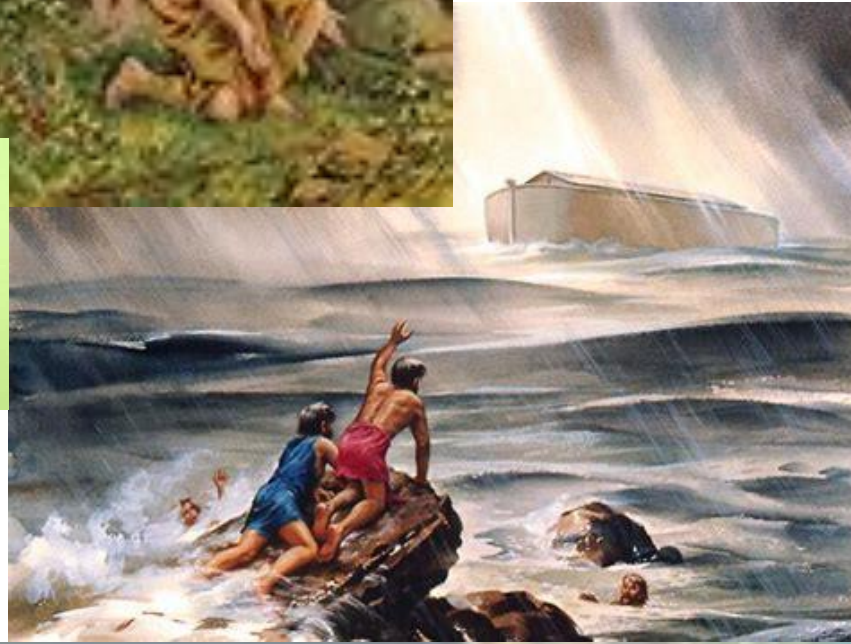
**Curse increased**

**Still Image of God**

**Languages/ Tribes**

**GOD IS GOD &**

**WE AREN'T**



# ***THE BEGINNING OF GRACE GOD'S STORY OF LOVE & REDEMPTION***

## **Genesis 18:1-23**

**-Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed.**

**-For I have chosen him in order that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice;**



***THE BEGINNING OF  
REDEMPTION—  
GOD'S LOVE STORY***

**TEACHING JUSTICE**

**Abraham**

**Judge of Earth**

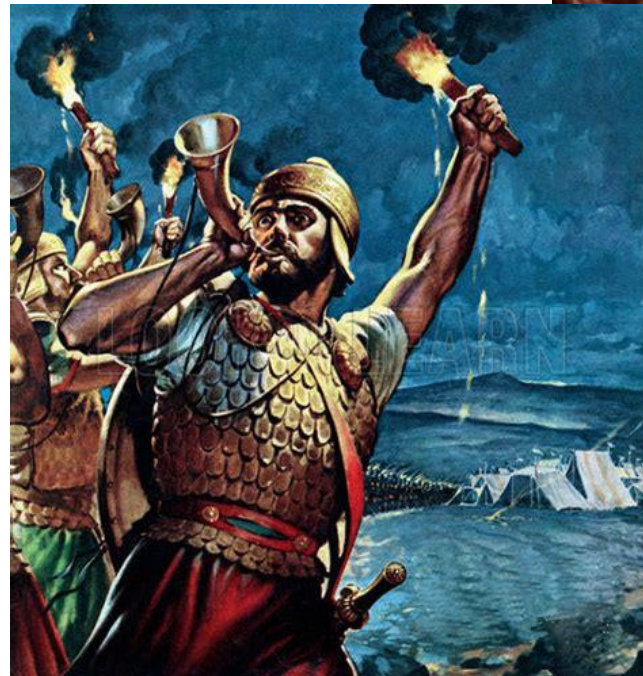
**Moses**

**Blessing and  
Curses**

**History**

**Judges & Kings**

**WISDOM DOCTRINE**



# ***OLD TESTAMENT THEODICY – WISDOM DOCTRINE***

**Psalms / Proverbs**

**- Righteous vs Wicked**

**-Wise vs Foolish**

**-Righteous will be blessed**

**-Wicked will  
suffer curses**



# ***OLD TESTAMENT THEODICY – WISDOM DOCTRINE***

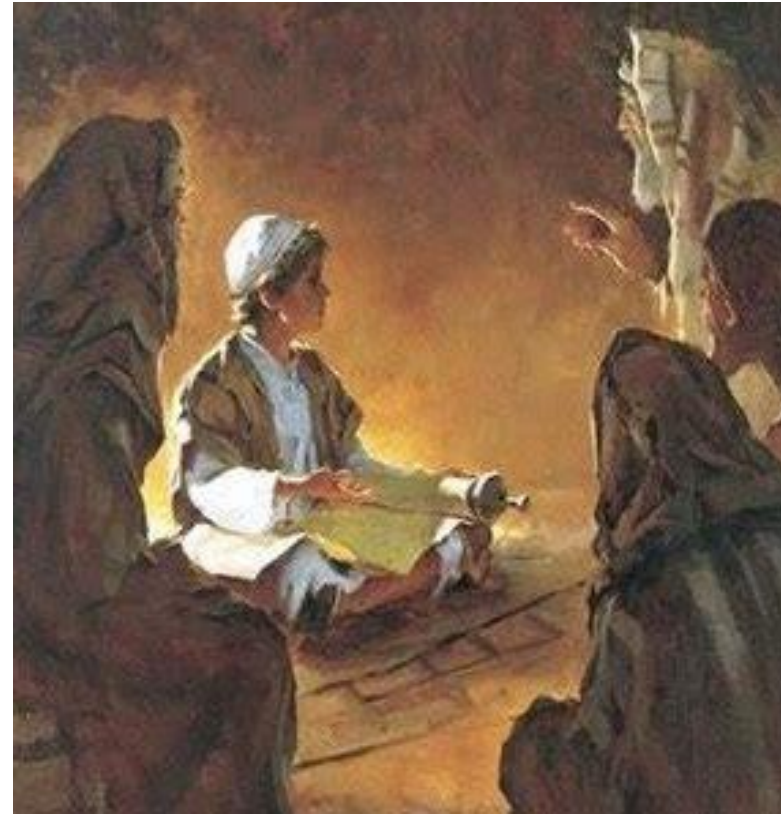
## **Psalms / Proverbs**

**-Wise will observe the pattern**

**- Teach it to the Young**

**- Blessings and Curses  
may be Delayed**

**Will Always See it...  
In This Life**



# ***OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION***

## **IS IT TRUE?**

***Psalm 37:25 I  
was young and  
now I am old,  
yet I have  
never seen the  
righteous  
forsaken or  
their children  
begging bread.***



# *OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONS*

**OLD TESTAMENT /**

**NEW TESTAMENT**

**COVENANT / PROMISE**

**MOSES / JESUS**

**JEWS /**

**ALL OF THE**

**PEOPLE OF GOD**





# *OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONS*

**39 Books – Many Authors**

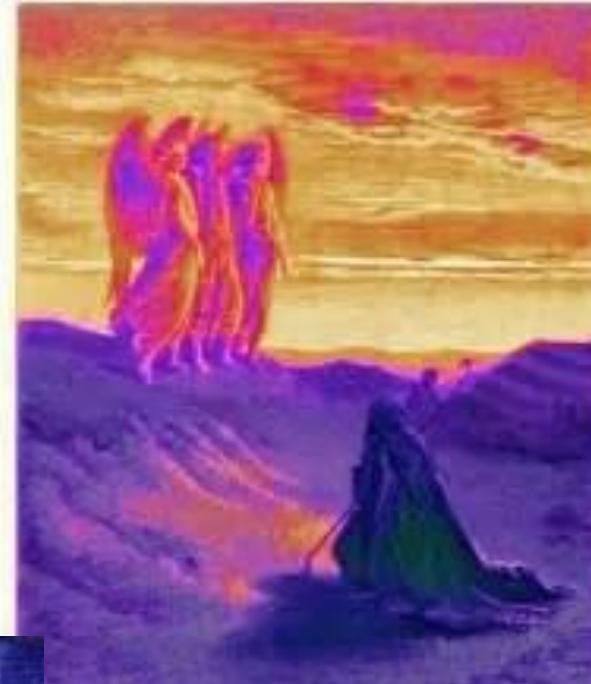
**– Over 1500 Years**

- 1. Pentateuch – Five books of Moses**
- 2. History - Joshua to Esther**
- 3. Poetry - Job to Songs of Solomon**
- 4. Major Prophets - Isaiah to Daniel.**
- 5. Minor Prophets - Hosea to Malakai**

***2 Tim 3: 16 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work".***

# *OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONS*

**Hebrews 1:1** God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers by the prophets in many portions in many ways



# *OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONS*

**Hebrews 1:2** In these  
last days has spoken  
unto us **by His Son**

**Galatians 4:4** But when  
the **fulness of the time**  
came, **God sent forth**  
**his Son,** made of a  
**woman,** made under  
**the law**



# *OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONS*

## *Matthew 5 – Jesus fulfills law and prophets*

**Example** of how Jesus fulfills the true purpose of the Old Testament priests.

Hebrews 6:5-13 - Old Testament priests serve at a **sanctuary that is a copy** and **shadow of what is in heaven.**

Jesus' Ministry superior to theirs

He is mediator of a **superior covenant** established on **better promises.**

By calling this covenant "new,"

He has made the **first one obsolete;** and what is obsolete and outdated will **soon disappear.**



# ***OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATIONSE***

**Interpret the Old Testament  
through the New Testament**

**Not NT through OT**

**PROGRESSIVE  
REVELATION**

**Abraham < Moses < David  
< Isaiah < Daniel < Paul**

***Know about God***

***/ Know God***



# **PROGRESSIVE REVELATION**

## **Death / Afterlife / Dust to dust**

**Psalm 49:10 – the wise and foolish**

**alike die**

**49:11 – they dwell and decay in their  
tombs forever**

**49:12 – all men die like beasts**

**30:19 – the dead cannot praise God**

**6:5, 88:10 – the dead can't ever remember God**

**88:11 – God's love and faithfulness**

**are unknown to the dead**

**88:12 – in fact, the dead know nothing**

**146:4 – their thoughts and plans die**

**49:19 – once dead, you will join your father's generation**



# ***John 11:25 I AM***

## ***The Resurrection & the Life***

### **Great White Throne**

**1 Corinthians 15**

**Revelation 20, 21, 22**

**All the Dead Judged**

**Great/ Small -Sea / Hell**

**New Bodies at home**

**in Heaven and Earth**

**See God – Praise Him Eternally**

**No Curse / Death/ Tears**

**OLD TESTAMENT –**

**SPIRITUAL DEATH**



**RESURRECTION TO MORTAL LIFE**—God has promised to glorify the “dead” dead, as ever dominantly depicted by and a rendering of one of Milton’s Apocrypha of a 2,000th 37.

# PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

## Satan/ Demons

### OLD TESTAMENT

- Rarely mentioned

### NEW TESTAMENT

**JESUS – Tempted in Wilderness**

**Prince of this world - John 12:31, 16:11**

**Power over Demons**

### PAUL

**2 Cor 4:4- god of this Age**

**Heb 2:14- He has Power of death**

**Eph 2:2- Ruler of the Kingdom of the Air**



# **PROGRESSIVE REVELATION Satan/ Demons**

## **REVELATION 12:3-17 GREAT RED DRAGON**



- his Tail drew the third part of the Stars of Heaven, and cast them to the Earth (Demons):
- there was **War in Heaven**: Michael and his Angels Fought against the Dragon and his Angels,
- the Great Dragon and his Angels were cast out, that **Old Serpent**, called **the Devil, and Satan**, which Deceives the Whole World:

# PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

## Satan/ Demons

REVELATION 12:10; 20:2

- Accuser of our Brethren
- Accused them before our God Day and Night.
- Jesus laid hold on the Dragon, that Old Serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, Bound him a Thousand Years



# PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

## Why Delay Knowledge?

**God Firmly Established Belief  
in His Justice and Power  
Before He reveals existence of  
Devil and Heaven and Hell**

**Why?**



# **PROGRESSIVE REVELATION & the Wisdom Doctrine**

## **Literal / Spiritual Application**

- 1. Not true to reality**
- 2. Simplistic**
- 3. Mercenary**

**Learn to love God  
for who He is,  
not for what  
He can do for us**



**In Heaven and Hell - Justice**

# The Book of **JOB**



# The Book of **JOB**



**First Book of Poetry Section of OT**

**Poetry is Art – Not History / Historic Play**

**Unknown Author – Genius**

**Best Hebrew Poetry**

**Carefully Crafted to Address**

**- the Problem of Evil**

**- Problem with the**

**Wisdom Doctrine**



**Holy Spirit placed Before Psalms & Proverbs**

# The Book of **JOB**

**Who? Genesis 36:5 Jobab 2<sup>nd</sup> King of Edom**

**When ?– During slavery in Egypt**

**Where ?– Uz, East of Sea of Galilee**

**Blameless Upright**

**Feared God Shunned Evil**

**Great Wealth, Health,  
and Family**

**Great Spiritual Intuition**



# The Book of **JOB**



Angels and Satan and God

God – consider Job, blameless

Satan – accuses mercenary

challenges take down Hedge

God AGREES – **WHY???**

Doesn't God know?

Not take his life

# The Book of **JOB**



**Satan – Kill, Steal, Destroy**

**4 Blows same day**

**2 Evils by Men**

**2 Evil by Nature**

**Mourn but not charge God**

***Naked came, naked leave***

***God gave, God took***





# The Book of

# JOB

***God Boasts of Job –  
Job still maintains his integrity,  
though you **incited me** against  
him to ruin him***

***without any reason."***

***Satan – “Skin for skin”,  
Unclean, painful skin disease***

***Seems trivial game of wagers***



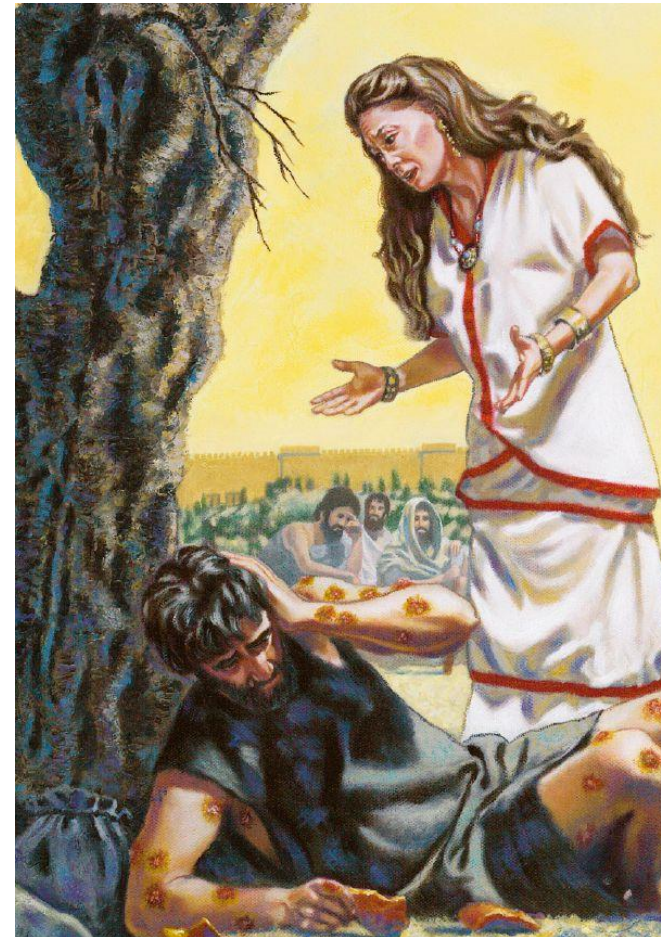
# The Book of **JOB**

**JOB'S WIFE** - "Are you still maintaining your integrity? **Curse God and die!**"

**JOB** - "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.*

**Not Yet!!**



# The Book of **JOB**

- *Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite. and Zophar the Naamathite,*
- *Go and sympathize with him and comfort him.*
- *Wept, mourned, sat in dirt, waited seven days*

***Good Intentions***

***Good Start***

***Wait for Job***

***to Speak First***



# The Book of **JOB**

***Job speaks! What a contrast from last words!***

- ***Curses day he was conceived,***
- ***wishes he was still-born***
- ***Questions Life when God***  
***“hedged him in”***

***What “greatly feared”***

***What did Job fear?***

***Was it sin?***

***FOR NO REASON !***



# The Book of **JOB**

## **Eliphaz – Starts well**

*Job has - instructed many,  
-strengthened feeble hands  
-supported those who stumbled  
-strengthened faltering knees.*

*Now trouble comes to you,  
are **discouraged and dismayed.***

*Let your piety be your confidence*

*Your blameless ways your hope*



# Eliphaz's Arguments



## WISDOM DOCTRINE -

**4:7** Consider now: Who, being innocent, has ever perished? **As I have observed,** those who plow evil and sow trouble reap it

## ORIGINAL SIN – Eliphaz's Dream

**4:17** 'Can a mortal be more righteous than God?

**DELAYED REAPING: 5:3** I myself have seen a fool taking root, but suddenly his house was cursed



# ***Eliphaz's Arguments***

## **HUMAN CONDITION -5:7**

***Man is born to trouble  
as surely as sparks fly upward.”***

## **UNSEARCHABLE GOD – 5:9**

***He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed,  
miracles that cannot be counted.***

## **GODLY DISCIPLINE -5:17**

***Blessed is the one  
whom God corrects;  
so do not despise the  
discipline of the Almighty.***



# The Book of **JOB**

## **Eliphaz's Arguments Don't Help**

- All True in some cases, False in Others
- Contradict each other

**Good Advice: 5:8** "But if I were you,  
I would appeal to God;  
I would lay my cause before Him

**Ends Badly: 5:18** For he wounds,  
but he also binds up, **5:25** You will know  
that your children will be many, and  
your descendants like the grass of the earth



# The Book of **JOB**

## **JOB'S RESPONSES AND THE GREAT DEBATE** **THREE ROUNDS - CHAPTERS 6-26**

**Job** - wishes to Die to end his Suffering

**Comforters** –If he dies, proves he is secretly wicked

**Job** - increases Demand to See God –

accuses God of injustice

**Comforters** – This is

Disrespect to God

Begin to question Job's  
righteousness



# The Book of **JOB**

## **JOB'S RESPONSES AND THE GREAT DEBATE CHAPTERS 6-26**

**Job** – Defames God's character

**Comforters** – This proves Job is a  
great secret sinner

**Job** – Begins to ignore comforters

**Comforters** – Try to frighten  
Job into repentance

**Job** – accuses friends  
of heartlessness  
and of defaming  
his character



# **JOB'S HOPELESS DESIRE**

*Plead his case before God  
not be overwhelmed  
by His holiness  
Ask God "WHY?"*

# **Job's Great Spiritual Intuition**

*9:33 Mediator , 1 Tim 2:5*

*16:19-21 Advocate 1 John 2:1*

*19:25-26 Redeemer Gal 3:13*

# The Book of **JOB**



**MEDIATOR**



# The Book of **JOB**

## **JOB'S FINAL SPEECH & ELIHU INTERRUPTION** **CHAPTERS 27-37**

*Job – 27 Rambles/ confused*

*28 Greatest Poem - **Fear of Lord is Wisdom***

*29-30 Mourns lost life, friendship of God  
and present condition*


*31 **Oath of Clearance***

*Elihu – 32-37 Young Interloper*

*Author's Device to review*

*and summarize*





# The Book of **JOB**

## **GOD'S OVERWHELMING RESPONSE – CHAPTERS 38-41**

**38:2-3** - "*Who is this that **obscures my plans** with **words without knowledge**? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.*"



**cosmology, astronomy, geology,  
meteorology, zoology**

# The Book of **JOB**

## **GOD'S OVERWHELMING RESPONSE – CHAPTERS 38-41**

**38:21** -*Surely you know, for you were already born! You have lived so many years!*





# The Book of **JOB**

## **GOD'S OVERWHELMING RESPONSE – CHAPTERS 38-41**

**40: 2** *"Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!"*

**40: 4-5** *"I am unworthy-how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth. I spoke once, but I have no answer-twice, but I will **say no more.**"*

**40: 7-8** *"Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. **"Would you discredit my justice?  
Would you condemn me to justify yourself?***



# The Book of **JOB**



## **GOD'S OVERWHELMING RESPONSE –CHAPTERS 38-41**

**38:12-13** - "Have you ever given orders to the morning...  
that it might **take the earth by the edges and shake the  
wicked out of it?**

**40: 12-14** Look at all who are proud and humble them,  
**crush the wicked where they stand..**  
Then I myself will admit to you that  
your own right hand can save you.

**BEHEMOTH AND LEVIATHAN**





# The Book of **JOB**



**LUCIFER** – Isaiah 14:12-13

How you have **fallen from heaven**, morning star,  
son of the dawn!

You have been **cast down to the earth**  
You said in your heart, "I will ascend  
to the heavens; I will raise my throne  
above the stars of God;

**BEHEMOTH AND LEVIATHAN**

**41:34** *It looks down*

*on all that are haughty;*

**king over all that are proud.**"





# The Book of **JOB**

## **THE PRICE OF DEFEATING EVIL**



***Who obscures my plans with words without knowledge?***

**Revelation 13:8** - the Lamb who was slain from the  
**Creation of the World.**

**Revelation 12:9-11** The great dragon was hurled down-that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan... He was hurled

to the earth, and his angels with him...They triumphed over him by the

**Blood of the Lamb**





# The Book of **JOB**

## **THE JOB'S REPENTANCE**

**42:2-6- *I know that you can do all things...  
You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my plans  
without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things  
I did not understand, things too wonderful  
for me to know... My ears had heard of you  
but now my eyes have seen you.***

***Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.***

**WHY DID JOB REPENT? – Answers or Experience  
OF WHAT DID JOB REPENT? Sin or Presumption**

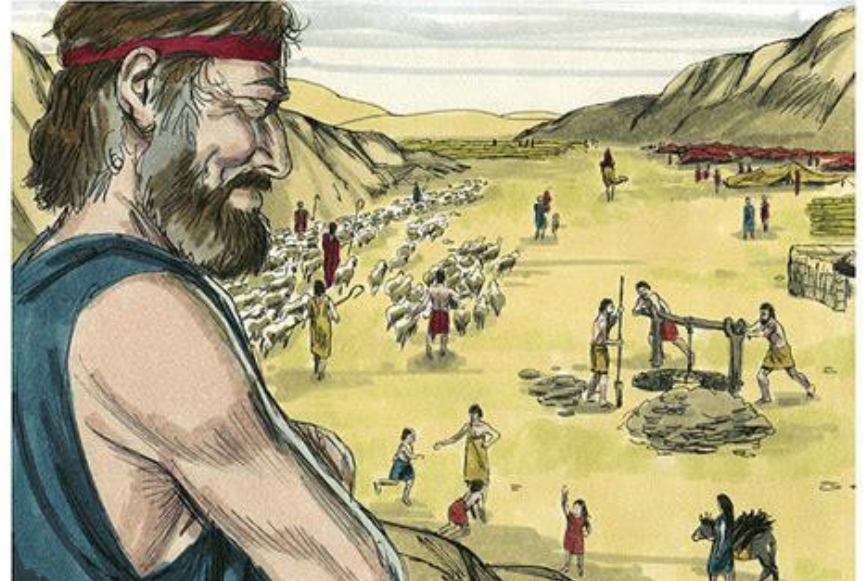
# The Book of **JOB**

## **JOB'S RESTORATION**



**42:7** - *I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have **not spoken the truth about me**, as my servant Job*

**JOB DEFAMED GOD'S CHARACTER /  
FRIEND'S DEFAMED JOB'S CHARACTER**





# The Book of **JOB**

## LESSONS FROM JOB

*You will suffer tragedy and ask God “Why?”  
A friend or family member will suffer tragedy  
and ask you “Why?”*

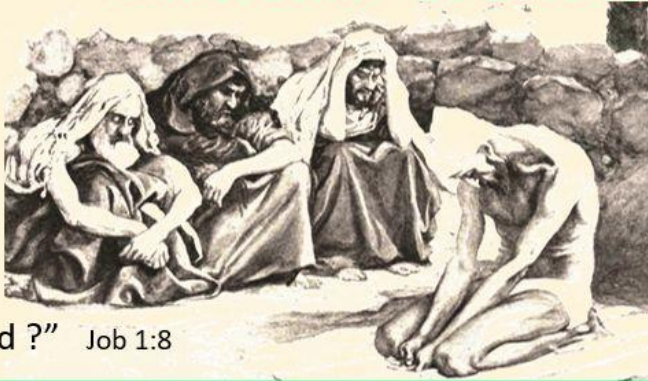
- *Will not want general intellectual answers*
  - *“Weep with those that weep”*
- *“I don’t know why? But I know Jesus who suffered also.”*
  - *Comfort is found in Him. SEEK JESUS*



lighthouse  
HUYE, RWANDA

~ MAY 8, 9, 10, 2019 ~

## CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS CONFERENCE



"Have you considered?" Job 1:8



## Theodicy!

The Defense of God's Justice in  
the face of human suffering

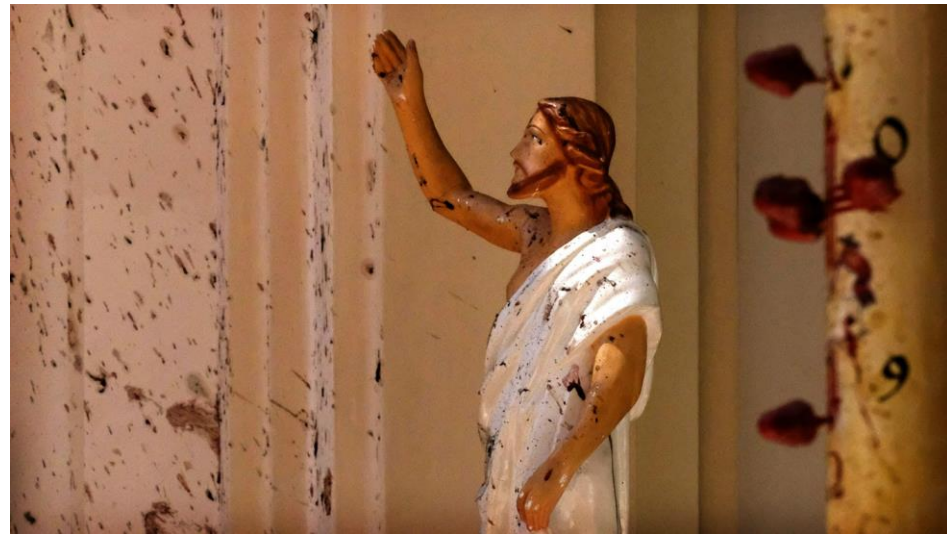
**SATURDAY, MAY 11**

**Is a prosperity doctrine Biblical? ~ Nehemiah Kithathutha  
Testimony ~ Dr. Chris Foreman**

# **SUFFERING DUE TO CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION**

**Six Biblical Responses to Sri Lanka's  
Easter Bombings - Ajith Fernando | April 23, 2019**

- 1) Lament Loss**
- 2) Condemn Evil**
- 3) Alleviate Suffering**
- 4) Leave Vengeance to the Lord –  
Justice to the government**
- 5) Don't Bear False Witness**
- 6) Pray**



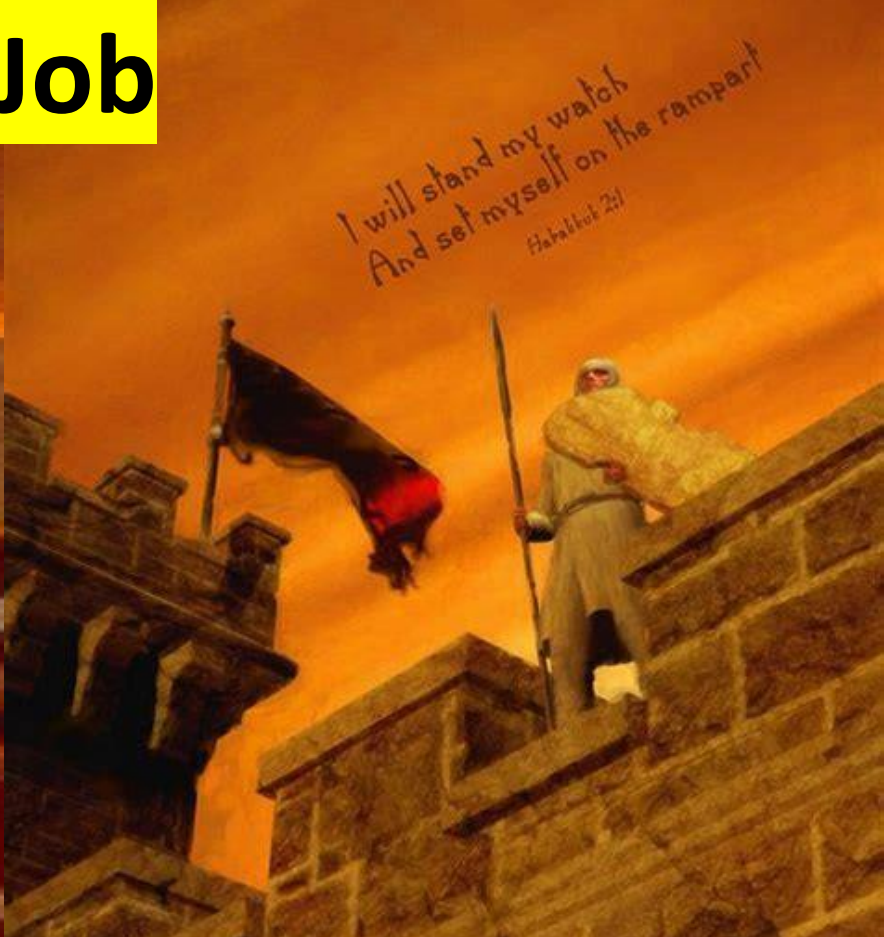
THE MINOR PROPHETS

# THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK



How long, O Jehovah,  
must I cry for help, and  
you do not hear?  
~Hab. 1:2.

## Little Job

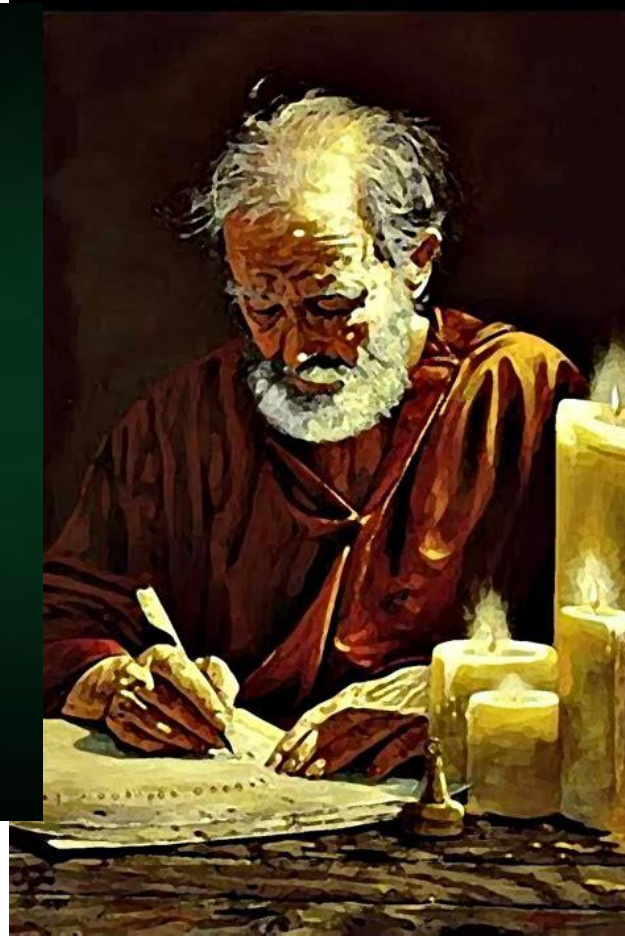


*I will stand my watch  
And set myself on the rampart*  
Habakkuk 2:1



HABAKKUK

*The Just Shall Live By Faith*

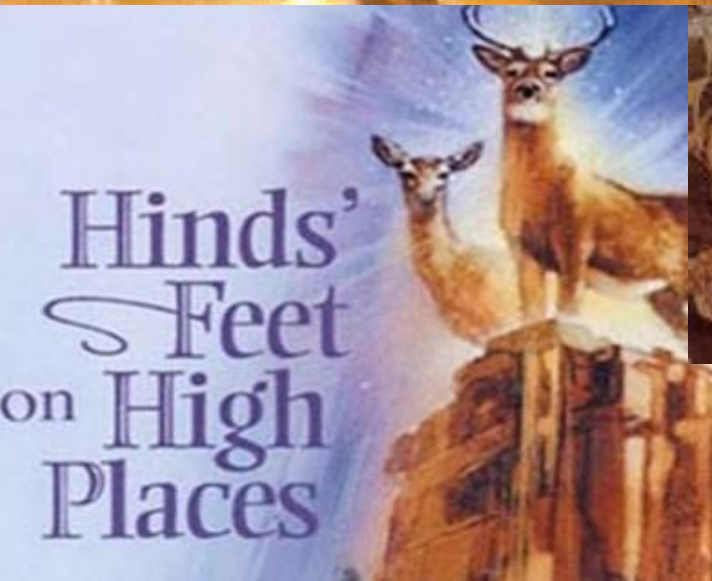
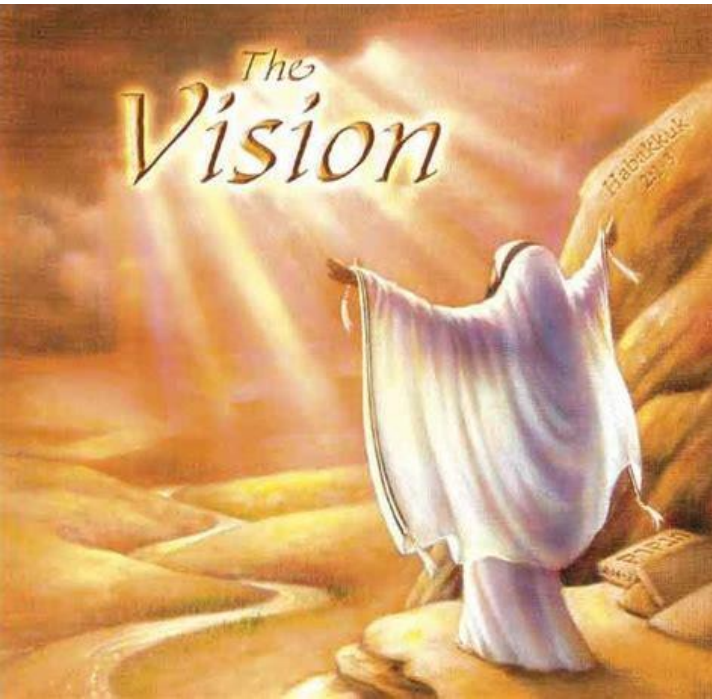


## **Romans 1:17**

For in the Gospel the Righteousness of God is Revealed—a Righteousness that is **by Faith from First to Last**,  
Just as it is Written:

**"The  
Righteous  
will Live  
by Faith."**

# WHEN?



**Habakkuk 3** Lord, I stand in Awe  
of your Deeds, my Heart Pounded,  
my Lips Quivered. God came..  
His Glory covered the Heavens  
and his Praise filled the Earth

Though the fig tree does not bud  
and there are no grapes on the vines,  
though the olive crop fails  
and the fields produce no food,  
though there are no sheep in the pen  
and no cattle in the stalls,  
yet I will rejoice in the Lord,  
I will be joyful in God my Savior.

Habakkuk 3:17-18 NIV

**FAITH IN WHO?**

**FAITH IN WHAT?**

**John 11:25 I AM the Resurrection & the Life**

**1 Corinthians  
15:54-57**

**Death is  
Swallowed up  
in Victory**

***O, Death where is your sting?***

***O, Grave where is your victory?***

**Thanks be to God who **GIVES US THE VICTORY**  
through **Jesus Christ our Lord!****



# FAITH IN WHAT?

**Romans 8:18** - I Consider  
that our **Present Sufferings**  
are not **Worth Comparing**  
with the **Glory** that will  
be **Revealed in Us**



**IN THE MIDST OF PAIN AND  
TRAGEDY...**

**These Remain -Faith, Hope, and Love**

**1 Corinthians 13**

**FAITH** **We Now See the Suffering,  
Not the Glory**



**2 Corinthians 5:7**

**We Live By FAITH,  
Not by Sight**

**IN THE MIDST OF PAIN AND TRAGEDY...**

**These Remain - Faith, Hope, and Love**

**1 Corinthians 13**

**HOPE**

**Hope for Eternal Life**

**without Pain**

**Romans 8:24 For in this HOPE**

**we were Saved.**

**But Hope that is Seen  
is no Hope at All**



**IN THE MIDST OF PAIN AND TRAGEDY...**

**The Greatest is Love**

**1 Corinthians 13**

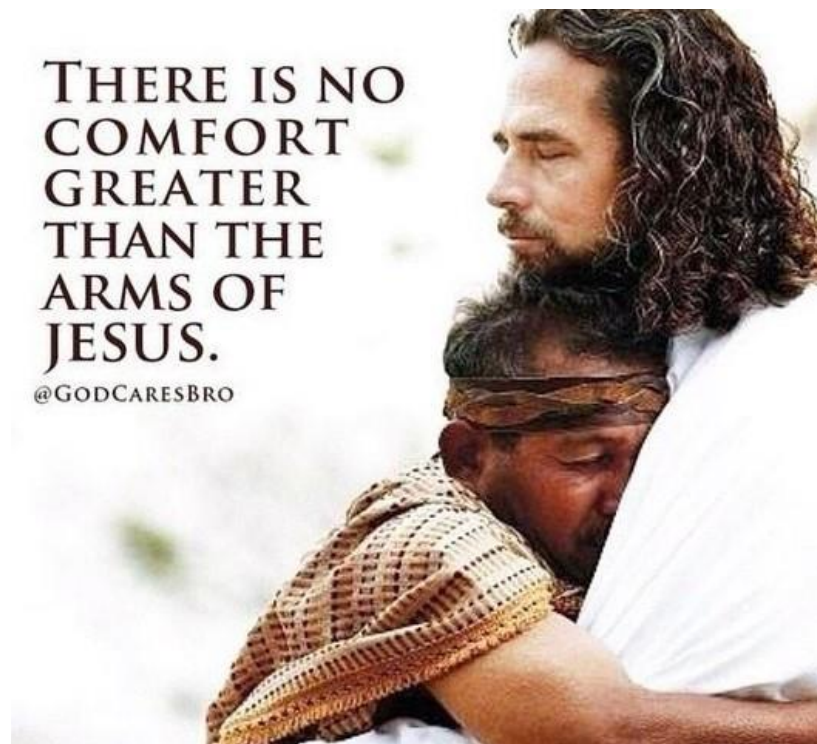
**LOVE**

**Our God Loves Us  
onto Death**

**John 3:16** For God so  
**Loved the World**  
that **He Gave His**  
**One and Only Son,**  
that **Whoever Believes**  
in Him shall not Perish  
but **have Eternal Life.**

THERE IS NO  
COMFORT  
GREATER  
THAN THE  
ARMS OF  
JESUS.

@GODCARES BRO



# FAITH DOCTRINE AND MY FATHER



# STATEMENT OF FAITH for CASA and CASR

- ***WE BELIEVE*** the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God and are fully trustworthy and the final authority in all they say.
- ***WE BELIEVE*** – ***THE APOSTLE'S CREED***
- ***WE BELIEVE*** God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only within the context of marriage between one male and one female.

# STATEMENT OF FAITH for CASA and CASR

- **WE BELIEVE** that **God is sovereign** over the affairs of men and women, that **He blesses His children with health and prosperity** *according to His divine will and not according to our human will.*

We believe **in healing and the power of prayer.** However, we **reserve to the Sovereign One** the **place, time, and manner of all blessings**