

# Outline of Job

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## I. Prologue (1-2)

A. Job Introduced (1:1-5)

B. Job's First Trial (1:6-22)

1. First Divine Council (1:6-12)

2. First Set of Calamities (1:13-19)

3. Job's First Response (1:20-22)

C. Job's Second Trial (2:1-10)

1. Second Divine Council (2:1-6)

2. Second Set of Calamities (2:7-9)

3. Job's Second Response (2:10)

D. Job's Friends Introduced (2:11-13)

## II. Job's Lament: Curses the Day of His Birth and Longs for Death (3)

## III. First Round of Speeches (4-14)

A. Eliphaz: *Questions Job's Innocence and Urges Him to Repent and be Restored* (4-5)

B. Job: *Defends His Lament, Rebukes His Friends, Clings to His Innocence, and Complains to God* (6-7)

C. Bildad: *Defends God's Just Judgment and Urges Job to Repent* (8)

D. Job: *Questions God's Justice and Complains of Unfair Treatment* (9-10)

E. Zophar: *Rebukes Job for Questioning God and Urges Him to Repent* (11)

F. Job: *Affirms God's Sovereignty, but Seeks God's Answer to His Complaint; Being Vindicated by God is His Only Hope* (12-14)

## IV. Second Round of Speeches (15-21)

A. Eliphaz: *Accuses Job of Irreverence and Upholds the Traditional View of the Wicked and Their Fate* (15)

B. Job: *Complains that His Friends Offer No Comfort and Only False Hope; Though God Torments Him, He is Job's Only Chance of Hope* (16-17)

C. Bildad: *Describes the Natural Consequences Suffered by the Wicked* (18)

D. Job: *Claims God has Wronged Him and All His Friends Have Deserted Him, but Hopes that God Will One Day Appear as His Redeemer* (19)

E. Zophar: *Warns Job that the Triumph of the Wicked is Short and Describes their Ultimate Punishment* (20)

F. Job: *Argues that the Experience of the Wicked is not as they Described*

#### V. Third Round of Speeches (22-28)

A. Eliphaz: *Details the Sins of Which Job Must be Guilty and Urges Him Again to Repent and be Restored* (22)

B. Job: *Longs to Meet His Judge, Despairs that He Cannot Find Him, and Questions Why God Doesn't Provide Court-dates to Resolve the World's Many Injustices* (23-24)

C. Bildad: *Describes God's Great Power Before Which Man Cannot be Justified* (25)

D. Job: *Scoffs at Bildad's Counsel and More Eloquently Describes God's Power* (26)

E. Job: *Refuses to Concede to Their Arguments, Demonstrates His Understanding of the Wicked's Fate, and Declares that Man's Search for Wisdom can Only be Satisfied by God Himself* (27-28)

#### VI. Job's Conclusion (29-31)

A. *Longs for the Blessings and Honor of His Past* (29)

B. *Laments Over the Shame and Dishonor He Now Experiences* (30)

C. *Swears to the Integrity of His Way and Stands Ready to Defend it, Even Before God Himself* (31)

#### VII. Elihu's Input (32-37)

A. *Elihu Introduced* (32:1-5)

B. *Elihu's First Speech: Urges All to Listen to His Perspective and Replies to Job that God Speaks to Men Through Visions, Chastening, and Messengers to Turn Them Back From the Pit* (32:6-33:33)

C. *Elihu's Second Speech: Affirms to All that God Does Not Pervert Justice, Yet Being Sovereign He Does Not Have to Abide by Our Terms* (34)

D. Elihu's Third Speech: *Rebukes Job for Claiming to Have a Greater Sense of Justice than God and Warns Him that God Will Not Answer the Proudful* (35)

E. Elihu's Fourth Speech: *Defends God's Righteous Dealings With Men, Urges Job to Learn the Lessons God is Teaching Him Through Suffering, Reminds Him to Give God the Exaltation He Deserves, and Introduces God in the Coming Storm* (36-37)

#### VIII. God Speaks to Job (38-42:6)

A. God's First Speech: *Challenges Job to See the Limitations of His Knowledge Regarding the Cosmos and All the Creatures it Contains* (38-39)

B. Job's First Answer: *Concedes He Has No Answers When Prompted by God and Stands Speechless Before Him* (40:1-5)

C. God's Second Speech: *Challenges Job to See the Same Limitations in His Knowledge and Control of Moral Judgment Within the Universe; Exhibits the Behemoth and Leviathan as Beyond Man's Control, How Much More is God Beyond Our Control or Comprehension?* (40:6-41:34)

D. Job's Second Response: *Declares His Faith in God's Sovereignty, Surrenders What He Does Not Understand to God's Control, and Repents of His Arrogant and Foolish Statements* (42:1-6)

#### IX. Epilogue (42:7-17)

A. The Lord Rebukes Job's Friends (42:7-9)

B. The Lord Restores All of Job's Prosperity Two-Fold (42:10-17)