



## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A2380 ~ Job Tried and True.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

The Bible book of Job teaches us that our character needs to be tested through various trials to strengthen our trust in God. While here on earth, all Christians are in a daily spiritual battle against the forces of evil. To stand victoriously in Jesus Christ's win over Satan and his hordes of demons, we need to hold fast to our faith in God.

After Job had passed Satan's tests of losing all his property, servants, family and health, without blaming God for his problems, three friends came to visit Job. They could see how deeply Job was suffering and so never spoke a word to him for seven days and nights. Today's drama is about Job speaking with his friends and with God.

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**DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).**

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In the book of Job, only the 1<sup>st</sup> two chapters and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the last chapter, Chapter 42, are written in prose, while all other chapters in between are written in poetry. The 1<sup>st</sup> chapters reveal Job's suffering from Satan's actions; however, from chapters 3 to 37, Job is arguing with his friends about the possible reasons why all these bad things have fallen on him. In the final chapters, Job is then talking with and listening to God's response to his situation.

In Chapter 3, the speaking back and forth between Job and his friends reminds us of the Old Testament thinking that God blesses those who do good and punishes those who do wrong. Yet in real life, we often see wicked people prospering. In Psalm 73, the writer said he envied the proud when he saw them prosper, despite all their wickedness, for they didn't seem to have any sickness or problems like everyone else. After he pondered this, he asked himself: had he kept his heart pure before God for nothing? Then he went into God's Temple and understood the destiny of the wicked. In an instant, they are destroyed. The writer desired to know God more than anything on earth and so again made the Lord his shelter, telling everyone about the wonderful things that God does.

Job's three friends insisted that Job was at fault for his suffering, but Job argued back that he hadn't sinned against God to cause all these disasters in his life. Although the three friends started out by keeping silence to comfort Job, when they did speak, they spoke with harsh words and merely added to his distress. This is the meaning of the English expression: "Job's comforters."

The test of a person's godly character isn't worldly success but what they think about God in their hearts and minds. The ungodly have the attitude of what they could get for themselves if they are obeying God. But this is Satan's approach and Job's three friends agreed with him. If comfort and wealth measure one's degree of holiness, our Lord Jesus wasn't anywhere near being holy. The Bible tells us that Jesus was completely holy and acceptable before God. And this is where we need to examine our own way of thinking to see if we're are thinking like God or the devil.

We please the Lord by living holy lives, being fully devoted to Him as soldiers of the cross who live by faith, give generously and bless others with our spiritual gifts. When we honour the Lord Jesus, we please God our Father. Job wanted to meet with God and get a fair trial of his circumstances so his case could be settled, but he didn't know where to find God. Job became bitter because God hadn't solved his problems on his terms. Trials can either make you better or bitter, depending on how you relate to God. If you see Him as an unkind Judge, you'll be bitter; but if you see Him as a loving Father, you'll be better for the experiences.

The greatness of God doesn't mean that He is far from us and unconcerned about us. He is always great in His love, mercy and kindness. Although God may not immediately take away our trials, He can give us a song in the night that brings peace to our hearts.

Job had claimed to know a great deal about God, so in chapters 38 to 42, God examined him on several subjects, such as creation, the management of nature, the array of stars and clouds in the heavens and the abilities given to animals and birds. Job of course failed God's examination, and so would we. In these chapters, God gives Job very detailed accounts about the creation of the world. Anyone who thinks they might have evolved from scum in the pond should realise just how amazingly complex God has made every part of our universe.

Job responded to God's questions with utter humility. He replied that he was nothing and had nothing more to say. But God further asked Job: "Will you discredit my justice and condemn me just to prove you are right?" Job had thought that God owed him an explanation for his suffering. But God told him that He owes no man anything, for everything under heaven belongs to Him. Job replied to the Lord: "I know you can do anything and no one can stop you." Job wished that he had not spoken about things that he knew nothing about. Job added to God: "I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance."

The problems of life aren't solved by reasons, but by relationships. Job needed to rest in God and God's solution for him. When Job saw God's greatness and his own littleness, that was the turning point for him. When Job saw the majesty of God, all of his arguments disappeared! He'd seen God and this was all that mattered. Job now had a new understanding of God's power and purposes. And by maintaining his faith in God, in spite of his trials, Job unknowingly silenced Satan's accusations against him and revealed to the world that God is worthy of our trust and worship, no matter how much He allows us to suffer for a time on earth. In the will of God, trials work for us, not against us; therefore we can work for God as we suffer and rejoice that He will receive the glory from it.

When people are experiencing grief over some tragedy in their lives, they want to call out to God and ask Him why this or that happened. Why hadn't God stopped or changed the circumstances so the tragedy hadn't happened at all? Sadly, those who are grieving often have no ready answers as to why death and suffering occur. But the Bible tells us that they were caused by Adam's and Eve's sin. So, how do we comfort such people? We can gently tell them that God knows everything about their suffering and that He desires that they come closer to Him in the midst of their sorrow. In the acceptance of God's reality comes peace.

After God had spoken to Job, He spoke to Job's friends, saying that they hadn't spoken accurately about Him like Job had. God said Job was His servant and told Job to pray for his friends so that God would accept his prayer. God forgave his friends of all the terrible things that they'd said about him. In response, God blessed Job with twice as much earthly possessions and a family as he'd had before.

Although God doesn't guarantee this kind of happy ending in this life to everyone who goes through trials, He does promise to reward all who remain loyal to Him. Job came out of the terrible furnace of suffering as a better person, and so can each of us too if we trust God and let Him have His plan for us. Then our sufferings won't be in vain, for through them, the Lord will be working out His glorious plan for us.

Can we, as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, win over Satan's temptations to crush us? Satan is a schemer who is trying to take down and destroy each person devoted to the Lord. We can't see him, but that doesn't mean that he's not there. Satan whispers temptations into our spiritual ears and minds. Are we powerless against him? No! God has given us weapons to use to defeat him. Prayer in our daily lives is important, as we can call on the Lord to protect us and order Satan to leave us in Jesus' Name. Jesus Himself often prayed to God and we're told in 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians, Chapter 5, to never stop praying.

Whenever you're attacked by thoughts of depression, hate, anger, anxiety and any disturbing thought in your mind, suspect this as a Satanic attack. In Ephesians, Chapter 6, it says: "For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world and against evil spirits in the heavenly places." We are to reject our thoughts that we know to be untrue and instead, to think about the things that are worthy of praise to God.

Spend a good lot of time in the Scriptures to learn basic Bible doctrines. Then when you hear something that doesn't sound right to you, you won't be deceived. You may not know where in the Bible to find the verse that you've recalled through the help of the Holy Spirit, but you can always look it up afterwards. Jesus knew the Old Testament Scriptures so well that when Satan came to tempt Him in the wilderness after His baptism, Jesus quoted all the verses that He needed to defeat Satan. Satan particularly wanted Jesus to bow down and worship him instead of God, as the main goal of Satan is to have recognized equality with God in heaven. This, of course, is never going to happen and Satan knows that his time before God's judgement is short. So he schemes how he can take as many people as he can with him into hell.

Temptations are often hardest to overcome when we're very tired or feeling unwell. Is our life too busy, with too many things always demanding our attention? The adult human body needs an ideal rest of eight hours of undisturbed sleep each night to recharge and be physically ready for the new day tomorrow. In Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 12, Jesus said: "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear and the burden I give you is light." When you're feeling discouraged, stop yourself for a moment; commit your burdens to God and let Him take care of them.

Part of our strategy of defeating Satan's temptations is to remember Satan's character. Satan speaks falsehoods and deception into our minds that we must resist in the Name of Jesus Christ. He also hides what is true.

Satan actively works against people from hearing and receiving the Word of God into their lives. In Mark's Gospel, Chapter 4, Jesus told the parable of a farmer sowing seed into four different types of soil. In it, the seed represents the Word of God being planted in people's hearts. Some seed falls onto a footpath and birds quickly take it away. Jesus explains in Verse 15: "The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away." Satan snatches the Word away because he hates faith in God, which is what the Word produces.

Satan also plans against those who are trying to spread the Gospel. However, God is sovereign over Satan and Satan can only do what God permits. At the very end of this world, Satan will be punished.

The biography of Job is really the biography of every person, for we don't always know the real reasons for our suffering. We speak of the patience of Job, and in our trials, we need patience too. Job now serves the world as an example of perseverance in suffering, despite limited knowledge. But when that knowledge says: "The Lord is compassionate and merciful," just knowing that can be enough. The path to victory in this warfare against Satan is to hold fast to Christ, for He dealt the decisive blow against Satan when He died on the cross. In Romans, Chapter 5,

Verse 8, it says: "God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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