

Yet Will I Trust Him

Job and the Mystery of Suffering



The Book of Job

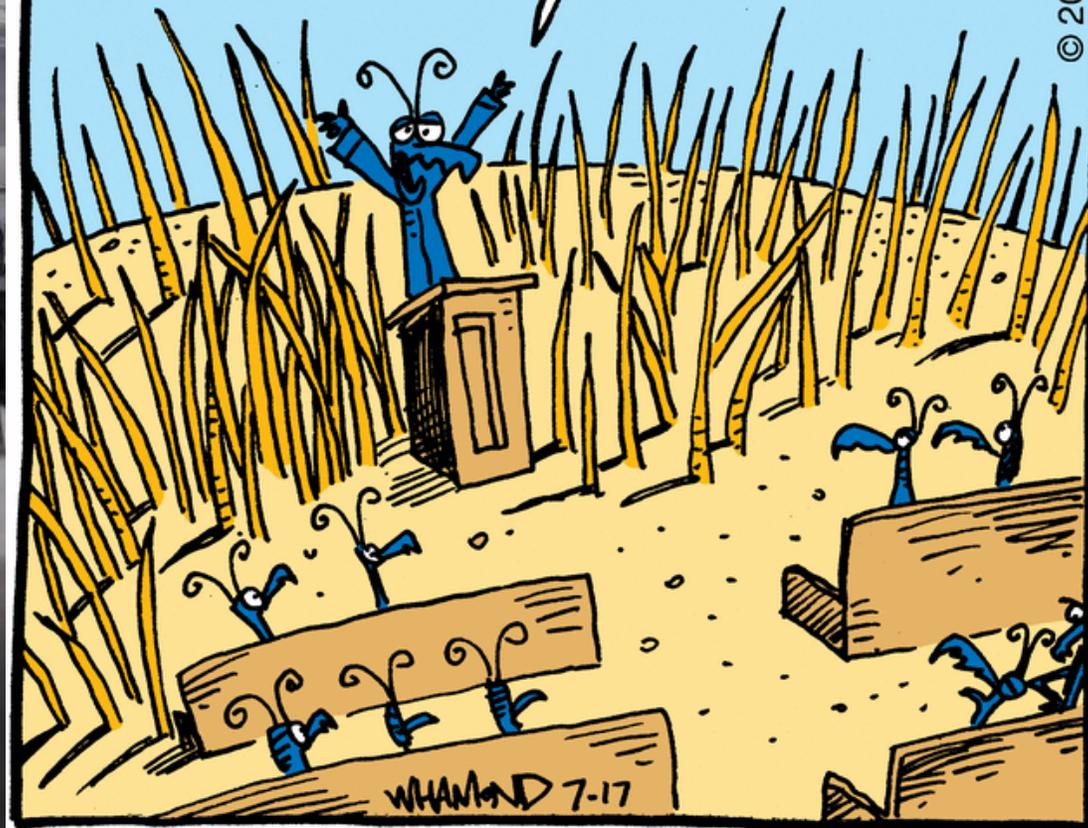
The book of Job is 42 chapters of a man not only suffering greatly but wrestling intensely with his own heart, struggling valiantly with his own understanding of God, and crying out, "What on earth is happening to me?"

The Book of Job

In this book, we also see into the invisible half of the universe. We see what God is doing, and what God allows. We see that God is somehow *behind*, and *in*, and working *through* all the things that we call "the troubles of life."

WE KNOW WE'RE ALL A PART
OF SOMETHING BIGGER, BUT,
MY FRIENDS, THERE ARE TIMES
WHEN WE ALL ASK OURSELVES,
"IS THERE A DOG?!"

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WHAM! 7-17

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Job is "blameless and upright" (Job 1:1, 8)

The Invisible Realm

The action comes from God. He is the director of this drama. He takes the initiative. That's thrilling in one sense but threatening in another!

The Invisible Realm

Ephesians 3:10



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Satan's implied accusation: "God, you have stooped to bribery."

At Issue

Shall a person love God because he's God,
and enjoy his blessings?

– OR –

Shall a person love God *only because* of the
blessings he or she might receive from God?

At Issue

Ultimately, it's not Job who's being set up; it's Satan who's being set up. God is leading the devil to his own defeat!

At Issue

Something cosmic is going on here. The devil is given permission to bring calamity—but it all plays into the overarching plan of a good and great God.

The Calamity

Job 1:13-19



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but Job does not.

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Job 1:13-19

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Job 1:20-22 shows us that Job is not serving God just for his benefits and blessings.

Relationship

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When it comes to suffering, it's not a glib answer we need, but genuine comfort—comfort from the God who loves us.

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What would you allow God to take from you, and you will still serve him?

A serene landscape photograph of a wooden pier extending into a calm body of water at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. The water reflects the warm colors of the sky. In the background, there are low hills or mountains. A white rectangular text box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image, containing a quote in a black, italicized serif font.

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to know God better in the end.*



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