Job 1:6-22 (NIV)

⁶ One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it."

⁸ Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

⁹ "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. 10 "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. 11 But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

¹² The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

¹³ One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, 14 a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, 15 and the Sabeans attacked and carried them off. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the sky and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and carried them off. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸ While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, 19 when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰ At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹ and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."

²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Job 2:1-10 (NIV)

¹ On another day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them to present himself before him. ² And the LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it."

³ Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason."

- ⁴ "Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A man will give all he has for his own life. ⁵ But stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face."
- ⁶ The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life."

⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. 8 Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes.

- ⁹ His wife said to him, "Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die!"
- ¹⁰ He replied, "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.



Job's friends got duped: they blamed him for all his disasters

They looked at his terrible circumstances and came to the conclusion that he was wrong.

Be careful about judging people – we never fully understand all the circumstances

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• Pray, that will give us godly wisdom to discern rightly as we speak with people, friends and family.

God may use you to glorify Himself - What a privilege! But it may be painful!

- He was using Job to glorify Himself before Satan.
- John 17: 1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you."
- ¹⁸ I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹Jesus said this to indicate *the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God*. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" John 21:18-20

Why God Used Job As An Example

• Job 2: 3 "There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason."

Job was a humble man and had a relationship with God.

• Job 1: ²⁰ At this, Job got up and *tore his* robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the *name of the LORD be* praised."

Job's relationship with God was so close, that he maintained his innocence and questioned God.

• Job says, 'I am innocent, but God denies me justice.'

God's infinite Wisdom

• "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8

Way of Forgiveness

• After the LORD had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. 8 So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has." ⁹ So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the LORD told them; and the LORD accepted Job's prayer. 10 After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD

The way of forgiveness

- God spoke to the friends who did wrong –
- Take a sacrifice and burn it before Job.
- Ask Job to forgive you.
- When Job prays for you (forgives you).
- Then, I will forgive you.

Consequences of not forgiving

- ¹⁴For *if you forgive* men when they sin against you, your heavenly *Father will also forgive you*. ¹⁵But *if you do not forgive* men their sins, your *Father will not forgive your sins*. Matt 6:14
- You need to say "sorry"
- In response, you need to say, "that's ok"
- This act maintains relationships!

Double Blessing? – What happened to the kids?

Before

- 7 sons, 3 daughters
- 7 K sheep
- 3 K camels
- 500 oxen
- 500 donkeys

After

- 7 sons, 3 daughters
- 14 K sheep
- 6 K camels
- 1 K oxen
- 1 K donkeys

The kids went to a better place. They are still alive!

- Do not fear mortal death:
- 4"I tell you, my friends, *do not be afraid of those who kill the body* and *after that can do no more*. ⁵But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, *has power to throw you into hell*. Luke 12:4

Conclusions

- Like Barry Marshall's ideas on HP, be careful about judging people, God works in mysterious ways.
- Be proud, when times are tough, God may be using His stellar student for His Glory.
- Be humble, remember everything you have is from God. Nothing is really yours.
- Forgive and you will be forgiven.
- God is always interested in you and the time you spend in eternity with Him.