

JOB

AUTHOR:

We are not sure who wrote Job, but it was probably written by an Israelite who wanted to preserve the story of Job that had been passed down by oral tradition.

DATE:

Job was written around the 6th century B.C. and describes events in the life of Job from around the 19th century B.C.

AUDIENCE:

Job's original readers would have come from the time of Solomon's Kingdom (970-930 B.C.). Job speaks to those who are suffering all kinds of trials and how God works in and through the tough times.

CONTENTS:

In Job we read about the rise and fall of a man who loved God. God allows Satan to take everything away from Job so that God could ultimately give Job true fulfillment. We see themes in Job such as God's power, goodness, and justice, along with information about Satan and how to respond to suffering.

CULTURAL FACTS:

During the Old Testament period it was thought that the only reason people suffered was because of their sin. Then came Job who was "righteous" in God's sight and yet suffered greatly. The Israelites must have been asking themselves, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" They had always assumed that only bad people suffered, but the fact is we are all in a fallen world and feel the effects of our sin and the sin in our world. We learn about the justice of God throughout Job, as God never leaves his side. For more on "Why do bad things happen to good people?" read Dr. Denison's book [Life on the Brick Pile](#).

