

Job 2

I love a little controversy. As a young Christian I attended a weekly Bible study. It was my turn to lead the group. Of course, I can't let sleeping dogs lie. I had to pick a topic that bugged me. I asked the group how Satan can be in the presence of God in heaven. Yes, I got nice fluffy Christian answers. God was not in heaven when Satan came to present himself. It was not Satan but a different being called the deceiver. All of this came from Job 2.

This book is not small. Its wordy and long. Job is chalked full is great lines. It's a literary masterpiece. Yet, is it real? That is really the argument. I feel chapter 2 is famous because of the verses and controversy. Some of the questions arise "can Satan come to heaven?"

"would God allow Satan to kill people to prove a point?"

"Was Job to blame for his folly?"

All of these questions arise in chapter 2. That is why I say it's a famous chapter. It opens with a bang. There is Satan before God with the Sons of God. Start the controversy right. Who are the Sons of God? They appear in the book of Genesis, chapter 7. There are many arguments about who these creatures, humans, or angels are. Basically, we just don't know. Where does this

book of Job fit in the timeline? The Bible curators put it in a Biblical timeline as the first prophetic book. Yet, the wording and style place it closer to an early Genesis time period.

Then we have Satan. It's not the serpent or the devil. This entity is called Satan. It says he comes before God to give account of himself. Where is the Lord when these entities approach him? Isn't God the Father usually in heaven? Then God does a crazy thing. He temps Satan. God says "have you considered my servant Job." What does that mean? God is asking if Satan thinks Job is a godly man or worldly man. Satan takes the bite.

This is a famous debate over a man and his life. God says Job is a good man. Satan replies that the only reason Job is good is because of Gods protection. Satan then implies that if God took his hand away, Job would hate God. Then God takes the bet. Satan you can have him but you can't kill him. This is terribly controversial.

First off, God says he does not tempt us with evil. Is God allowing evil to temp Job? It's the cup half full thing. What is going on? I believe God is testing Jobs resolve. What does Jobs love for God look like without divine help? Secondly, why did God allow Jobs kids to be killed? If you read the chapter before, this challenge between to Spirits happens twice. However, in the first chapter Job loses his kids, status, and lifestyle. Not all was well in the Job household.

I'm going to say this. Jobs kids were not great. Jobs wife was not great. She asked Job to curse God and die. Nice wife. Secondly, Jobs kids were not Godly. They had left themselves exposed to evil. You see, I don't think Job had left himself to evil. That is why God noticed Job and not his children. This whole section is controversial, yet fun.

There is a famous line in this chapter that has been used in churches, movies, and books forever. It's Job 2: 10 "He replied, "You are talking like a foolish (his wife) woman. Shall we

accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said." That is the theme of this whole book. What part of Gods way or plan will you accept or reject? The second question was "did Job do anything wrong?" This chapter is famous because it argues these ageold questions.

Finally, we first have Jobs wife chastise him. We see this in verse 9 "His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" Satan tried to take everything from Job. He wanted to win the bet on Jobs integrity. Clearly, Jobs wife had little. Lastly, enters Jobs three friends. They remain silent in this chapter. Yet for the remainder of this book they argue back and forth over whether Job is to blame for his folly. This chapter is famous for all the right and wrong reasons.