

Job: A Man Devoted to God

Selections from Job 1: 1- 2: 10 (CEV)

Narrator, God, Satan, Job, Job's wife, two altarscape helpers

Narrator is at the pulpit. God is near the stage (right).

Satan is at the back of the sanctuary. All of the candles are lit.

Job and his wife are seated on the stage (left).

Narrator: ¹Many years ago, a man named Job lived in the land of Uz. He was a truly good person, who respected God and refused to do evil.
²Job had seven sons and three daughters. ³He owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred pair of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and a large number of servants. He was the richest person in the East.
⁴Job's sons took turns having feasts in their homes, and they always invited their three sisters to join in the eating and drinking. ⁵After each feast, Job would get up early the next morning and offer a sacrifice for each of them, just in case they had sinned or silently cursed God.

God comes forward. Satan walks up the center aisle to the stage.

⁶One day, when the angels had gathered around the Lord, and Satan was there with them, ⁷the Lord asked

God: Satan, where have you been?

Satan: I have been going all over the earth.

God: What do you think of my servant Job? No one on earth is like him---he is a truly good person, who respects me and refuses to do evil

Satan: Why shouldn't he respect you? You are like a wall protecting not only him, but his entire family and all his property. You make him successful in whatever he does, and his flocks and herds are everywhere. Try taking away everything he owns, and he will curse you to your face.

Move GARBAGE CAN in front of table.

God: All right, Satan, do what you want with anything that belongs to him, but don't harm Job.

Narrator: Then Satan left.

Satan exits front and center and moves to the front pew.

God moves to the right front pew. Job stands.

¹³Job's sons and daughters were having a feast in the home of his oldest son, ¹⁴when someone rushed up to Job and said, "While your servants were plowing with your oxen, and your donkeys were nearby eating grass, ¹⁵a gang of Sabeans attacked and stole the oxen and donkeys! Your other servants were killed."

Set the COW and DONKEY in the garbage can.

¹⁶That servant was still speaking, when a second one came running saying, "God sent down a fire that killed your sheep."

Set the SHEEP in the garbage can.

¹⁷The third servant raced up and said, "Three gangs of Chaldeans attacked, stole your camels."

Carefully set the CAMELS in the garbage can.

¹⁸Then the fourth servant dashed up saying, "Your children were having a feast and drinking wine at the home of your oldest son, ¹⁹when suddenly a windstorm from the desert blew the house down, crushing all of them."

Carefully set the PLATE upside down on small candles to extinguish them.

Place the basket of FOOD in the garbage can.

²⁰When Job heard this, he tore his clothes and shaved his head because of his great sorrow. He knelt on the ground, then worshiped God ²¹saying:

Job: We bring nothing at birth; we take nothing with us at death. The Lord alone gives and takes. Praise the name of the Lord!

Narrator: ²²In spite of everything, Job did not sin or accuse God of doing wrong.

Satan enters stage front and center.

¹When the angels gathered around the Lord again, Satan was there with them, ²and the Lord asked,

God: Satan, where have you been?

Satan: I've been going all over the earth.

God: ³What do you think of my servant Job? No one on earth is like him—he is a truly good person, who respects me and refuses to do evil. And he hasn't changed, even though you persuaded me to destroy him for no reason.

Satan: ⁴There's no pain like your own. People will do anything to stay alive. ⁵Try striking Job's own body with pain, and he will curse you to your face.

Set the picture on the floor behind the table.

Pick up the two pillar candles. Drape the table in black.

Return the pillar candles to the table.

Add the picture of Job suffering to the table.

God: ⁶All right! Make Job suffer as much as you want, but just don't kill him.

Satan exits the stage front and center. Job and his wife stand.

Job follows the action as described below.

Narrator: ⁷Satan left and caused painful sores to break out all over Job's body—from head to toe.

Place broken pottery on the table and scatter dry leaves all around.

⁸Then Job sat on the ash-heap to show his sorrow. And while he was scraping his sores with a broken piece of pottery, ⁹his wife asked,

Job's wife: Why do you still trust God? Why don't you curse him and die?

Job: Don't talk like a fool! If we accept blessings from God, we must accept trouble as well.

Narrator: In all that happened, Job never once said anything against God.

Place bible on the table.

Sing one verse of "You Are My All in All" or "Blessed Be Your Name."