THE BOOK OF JOB – CHAPTERS 1-3
"Welcome to the Woeful World of Uz"

THEME: SUFFERING – The Book of Job grapples with one of the greatest questions ever asked: Why do good people suffer? It is a problem that causes God's people to question and struggle in every generation. If God is all-loving, why does he permit people to suffer? If God is all-powerful, then why doesn't God prevent some of the great tragedies that occur?

MAIN HUMAN CHARACTER: JOB – This is not a fictional character that God uses in a parable. The events in this Book actually happened to a man who really lived. He is referred to in Ezekiel 14:14 & 20. There he is mentioned along side Moses and Daniel, both of whom I am sure we would not debate their existence. He is also referred to in James 5:11 where it says, "Ye have heard of the patience of Job."

STYLE OF WRITING: POETIC – This is the first of the Books categorized as the Poetic Books. These books include Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon and Lamentations.

OUTLINE:

I. CHAPTERS 1-3: THE PROLOGUE – GOD SETS THE SCENE FOR THE BOOK OF JOB
II. CHAPTERS 4-41: THE DIALOGUE –CONVERSATION BETWEEN JOB AND HIS FRIENDS AND WITH GOD HIMSELF
III. CHAPTER 42: THE EPILOGUE – GOD BRINGS THE BOOK TO A RESOLUTION

I. JOB'S AFFLUENCE (1:1-5)
- A. JOB WAS RICH IN HIS FAITH (1:1)
- B. JOB WAS RICH IN HIS FAMILY (1:2)
- C. JOB WAS RICH IN HIS FORTUNE (1:3)

II. JOB'S ADVERSITY (1:6-2:13)
- The devil has direct access to the throne of God
- When he takes advantage of his access, he comes to God as the "accuser of the brethren".
- The devil always has to get permission from God before he can do anything to a believer.
  - A. A DIALOGUE BETWEEN SATAN AND GOD (1:6-12)
  - B. JOB LOSES HIS WEALTH (1:13-19)
  - C. JOB LOSES HIS HEALTH (2:1-7)

III. JOB'S ANGUISH (CHAPTER 3)
- A. JOB'S LAMENTATION (3:1-10)
- B. JOB'S FRUSTRATION (3:11-23)

LESSON #1: Whatever is coming to your life, God already knows about it.

LESSON #2: God is working everything out for your good and His glory.

LESSON #3: In hard times ask, "What's going on behind the scenes that I don't know about.

LESSON #4: Keep in mind, the Devil is not running this universe, God is.

Notes or Additional Prayer Requests: