

Job

Into the Fire, Out of the Ashes

- I. Prologue: A heavenly wager played out on earth: 1:1-2:13
 - A. Job: the earth's most righteous man (1:1-5)
 - B. God and the accuser wager on Job's integrity (1:6-12)
 - C. Job is ruined but faithful (1:13-22)
 - D. God's second wager, with more personal stakes (2:1-6)
 - E. Job loses his health but holds fast his integrity (2:7-10)
- II. Job and his friends seek understanding: 3:1-31:40
 - A. Job's lament (3:1-26)
 - B. Cycles of speech and response (4:1-27:23)
 - 1. The first cycle (4:1-14:22)
 - a. Eliphaz speaks (4:1-5:27) and Job responds (6:1-7:21)
 - b. Bildad speaks (8:1-22) and Job responds (9:1-10:22)
 - c. Zophar speaks (11:1-20) and Job responds (12:1-14:22)
 - 2. The second cycle (15:1-21:34)
 - a. Eliphaz speaks (15:1-35) and Job responds (16:1-17:16)
 - b. Bildad speaks (18:1-21) and Job responds (19:1-29)
 - c. Zophar speaks (20:1-29) and Job responds (21:1-34)
 - 3. The third cycle (22:1-27:23)
 - a. Eliphaz speaks (22:1-30) and Job responds (23:1-24:25)
 - b. Bildad speaks (25:1-6) and Job responds (26:1-27:23)
 - c. (nothing is attributed to Zophar in this cycle)
 - C. A hymn to elusive wisdom (28:1-28)
 - D. Job's closing arguments (29:1-31:40)
 - E. Elihu's speeches claim to have the answer (32:1-37:24)
- III. Job meets his maker: 38:1-42:6
 - A. God speaks from a whirlwind (38:1-40:2) and Job is silent (40:3-5)
 - B. God speaks again (40:6-41:34) and Job understands (42:1-6)
- IV. Epilogue: Job's fortunes are restored: 42:7-17