

There Was No Covenant
Job #1 | 1:1-5
June 7, 2020

Christopher Ash Job is a fireball book. It is a staggeringly honest book. It is a book that knows what people actually say and think—not just what they say publicly in church. It knows what people say behind closed doors and in whispers, and it knows what we say in our tears. It is not merely an academic book. If we listen to it carefully, it will touch us, trouble us, and unsettle us at a deep level.

Job's Setting | Job 1:1-5

1. Not in Israel
2. Patriarchal era

No Covenant

James Bejon That Job is set in patriarchal times is an important detail, since it explains Job and his friends' method of inquiry. As Job and his friends sit on the plain of Uz and seek to process what has happened, they do not have a clear revelation from God to work with, nor do they have a specific covenant/promise in which they can ground their debate.

Job's Integrity | Job 1:1

1. Complete, whole integrity
2. He does not deserve the suffering he's about to endure

Job's Concern | Job 1:4-5

1. Good heart for his kids
2. Anxious because of no covenant

Covenant

Walter Elwell Arrangement between two parties involving mutual obligations...In the OT the word "covenant" was used in an ordinary human sense as well as in a theological sense. An understanding of human covenants provides a starting point for understanding the covenant between God and human beings.

Human Covenants

1. Political alliances | Genesis 21:27, 1 Kings 5:12
2. Leaders | 2 Samuel 5:3
3. Leaders and people | 2 Kings 11:17
4. Group of people | 2 Chronicles 15:12
5. Personal vow | Job 31:1
6. Friendship | 1 Samuel 18:3
7. Marriage | Malachi 2:14

Divine Covenants: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David

Job and his friends don't know. They don't live in Israel, they live before most of these.

Broken Covenants, Promised New Covenant | Jeremiah 31:31-34

New Covenant Fulfilled | Luke 22:19-20

Luke 22 ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ In the same way he also took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

Big idea: All of God's covenants were good; we have the best one.

Application

1. Be confident
2. Be thankful
3. Be loyal