

Let God Be God: Life-Changing Truths from the Book of Job  
The Test  
Job 1:1-22

Most of us, as American Christians, have grown up feeling that we are entitled to a life of ease, comfort, and prosperity. When suffering comes into our lives, we cry out in protest against the unfairness of it all. But when we read the writings of some of the great Christian saints of the past, we often find a more mature and accepting view of suffering.

1. We are \_\_\_\_\_ in a strange war.
2. We are swayed by Satan's \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We are subject to Satan's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We are \_\_\_\_\_ to God's sovereignty.

Whenever we are tested by trials of pain and loss, it is helpful to look beyond our momentary suffering and see the eternal implications of this test. This life is a battlefield, and we are warriors who serve the King of the universe. This life is a test, and we win a battle on behalf of our Lord and Master whenever we pass the test.

#### Reflection

Consider the amount of financial loss that precipitated the Great Depression. Think about the natural disasters that occur in our world that have the potential to wipe out everything we own in just a matter of minutes. Is the loss of everything different in Job's case than in the many stories of others who have lost everything? Review Job 1:20-22. Was Job's response to his loss unusual? Why or why not? What response did Satan expect? What does this tell you about the mind of Satan versus the mind of God? What is the basis for Job's response and how might adapting a similar philosophy help us in our own times of trouble and loss?