

THE WIZ





Mute (m)



The Book of Job

“The play's the thing, wherein I'll catch the conscience of the king.”

In the book of Job Satan is the antagonist

The battle is not between Job and Satan which is often how we tell the story

Nor is the conflict between Job and God again a path we often take

God is not a side character in Job's life



The Book of Job

“The play's the thing, wherein I'll catch the conscience of the king.”

There is usually some kind of centralized plot or story line

It's not easy come easy go

And while important subthemes the main point is not patience and perseverance (*James 5:10-11*)

Job did not tough out and simply survive his ordeal in the end he will have to embrace his God



The Book of Job

There are also various forms of speech

Narration: Provide a spoken commentary

Dialogue: content which is spoken between two characters, or it could be interactively spoken between character and audience

Monologue: a long speech by one actor

Soliloquy: an act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself or regardless of any hearers, especially by a character in a play.



The Path of Life

Job Chapter 28

We are unsure exactly who is speaking here

Most think it's Job as he is the last one to speak in Chapter 27 and the first to speak in chapter 29

Going with Satan did not deliver it

Some credit God as speaking

Still others a Narrator



Authorship

Author is Unknown!

As you read chapter 28 you can't help but notice some of the similarities of style between Job and Ecclesiastes

Especially the concluding line “The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.”

The similarities does suggest that while Job may have lived long before and was a historical figure, this work was written by or sometime around the time of Solomon



The Highway of Man

Job 28:1-12

They tunnel through the rock; their eyes see all its treasures. They search the sources of the rivers and bring hidden things to light.

(v. 10-11)

The first section speaks man's relentless desire to acquire

Heaven: We think of streets of gold, a sea of crystals, gates made of pearl, and rainbows of promises. All those things that are precious to us. Oh, and then there is God



The Highway of Man

Job 28:1-12

When we think of the Bible it's about knowledge and knowing more. We treat it like a user's manual or a treasure map for life, when it is a compass to point us toward God

But we are never satisfied because the true desire is wisdom and understanding

But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell?

v. 12





The Highway of Man

Satan convinced humanity that eating would make them like God having true wisdom

But instead, it separated us from God costing us our connection to true wisdom

All technological advances have allowed us to gather much, including knowledge

But wisdom and true understanding seems to still be out of our grasps



The Highway of Man

**We can bring physical
light into the darkness on
our planet, but we can't
seem to enlighten
our own souls**



The Lost Road to Wisdom

The first glance it is the rarest of any commodity

No mortal comprehends its worth

It cannot be found in the land of the living.

The deep says, "It is not in me"

The sea says, "It is not with me"



Priceless

More valuable than any amount of gold or silver

It more precious than any fine gemstone; Onyx, Lapis lazuli, Crystal, Jewels, Coral, Jasper, Rubies, and Topaz

If this is Job speaking it makes sense; His kids are dead. His wife is having a nervous breakdown from depression. His wealth is all gone. His health is failing. His friends are blaming him. God is silent!



The Lost Road to Wisdom

Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds in the sky. Destruction and Death say, Only a rumor of it has reached our ears."

Only these are not rhetorical.

v. 20-22

On his journey of suffering, he just can seem to find his yellow brick road that will lead him out



The Way of God

God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters, when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; he confirmed it and tested it. And he said to the human race, "The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding."

v. 23-28



The Way of God

He acknowledges God's control over things he does not understand

He says when it comes to wisdom only God can; appraise it, confirm it and tested it

As a human the best I can do is seek, serve and follow God (v. 28)

**During suffering stay the course
Patience and Preserve are not
what I want to hear**



The Way of God

The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 138:6-12



A Journey with Suffering

A Study from the Book of Job

