# THE REDEEMER OF NAMES



Author/Authors unknown Oldest Bible book Job = Persecuted Job 1-2 & Job 42:7-14 = Prose Job 3:1-42:6 = Poetry Time elapse between Job 1:20 & Job 2:11 2 main cycles in Job 1-20: Cycle 1: Job 1-11 Job-Eliphaz Job-Bildad Job-Zophar

Cycle 2: Job 12-20 Job-Eliphaz Job-Bildad Job-Zophar

Be cautious when reading and applying the verses, check who is talking – these three friends of Job judged God and him wrongly!

## **Opening Scene** God seems to provoke satan to consider Job

Where was of Suffering God? Why me? Why does evil prosper? **The Paradigm** Where were we? **Good God** Why not i? **Good Person** Why wouldn't evil **Evil World** prosper?

**The Question** 

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God? Why me?

Where was

Why does evil prosper?

The Question of Suffering

Edomite God punishes (Eliphaz) Yahvite (Zophar) God's power & law Canaanite God is just (Bildad)

> Accusing judgers Counselling advisers Unhelpful helpers Blaming blamers

The Voices in Suffering The Paradigm Good God Good Person Evil World

rs A rr ers gra Where were we? Why not i? Why wouldn't evil prosper?

Heroism, Acceptance, recognition, swing of emotions, grappling with questions

#### The Process of Suffering

### **Opening Scene** The Redeemer of Names

God and I

The Response to Suffering God Heals, He saves, He reveals

Job 19:25-27 Connects to the opening scene

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The Paradigm Good God Good Person Evil World Where were we? Why not i?

Why wouldn't evil prosper?

The Voices in Suffering Accusing judgers Counselling advisers Unhelpful helpers Blaming blamers Heroism, Acceptance, recognition, swing of emotions, grappling with questions

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### LIO Questions

- 1. Consider the three questions: Where was God? Why me? Why does evil prosper? Which of these three presents the greatest test of your faith? What can you do to press beyond this question?
- 2. Reflect on Job's process of suffering. Which part of this process are you (or someone you know) in? How can you press into completing the process and being healed?
- 3. What are some unhelpful voices you hear? Or perhaps unhelpful words you've spoken to the suffering? What can you do to guard against this in future?
- 4. Do you have an **authentic community** you can open up with, that journeys with you in your pain? What can you do to be part of such a community? Remember, it works both ways.
- 5. Has past or present suffering put a wedge between you and God? Is it drawing you to cling to Him tighter in desperation? How can you remove this wedge effectively?