

The Integrity of Job

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INTRODUCTION

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines "integrity" as "(1) firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values: *incorruptibility*; (2) an unimpaired condition: *soundness*; (3) the quality or state of being complete or undivided: *completeness*. For synonymy, see *honesty*."

Having been used since the 14th Century, the noun integrity is derived from Middle English and Middle French back to the Latin *integer*, which means "whole or entire."

Biblical examples of integrity include Abimelech, King of Gerar (Gen. 20:1-7) and David, King of Israel (Ps. 78:70-72).

Exhortations to integrity occur repeatedly in the Wisdom Literature (Ps. 15:1-5; Prov. 11:3; 20:7; etc.).

THE TEXT

Consider the testimony of the text (Job 1:1-5, 20-22).

THE LORD GOD

Consider the testimony of God (Job 1:6-12, esp. v. 8; 2:1-6, esp. v. 3).

HIS WIFE

Consider the testimony of Job's wife (Job 2:7-10).

HIS FRIENDS

Consider the testimony of Job's friends: Eliphaz the Temanite (Job 4:1-6) and Bildad the Shuhite (Job 8:20-22).

THE MAN HIMSELF

Consider the testimony of Job himself (Job 6:1-4, 22-30; 7:11-21; 27:1-6; 31:1-40).

Regarding Virgins/Maidens (Job 31:1)

Regarding God (Job 31:2-4)

Regarding Honesty (Job 31:5-6)

Regarding Lust of the Eyes (Job 31:7-8)

Regarding Lust of the Flesh (Job 31:9-12)

Regarding Treatment of Slaves (Job 31:13-15)

Regarding the Poor & Needy, the Widow, & the Orphan (Job 31:16-23)

Regarding Idolatry (Job 31:24-28)

Regarding Attitude (Job 31:29-30)

Regarding Hospitality (Job 31:31-32)

Regarding Transgression (Job 31:33-37)

Regarding the Land (Job 31:38-40)