

“A BLAMELESS & UPRIGHT MAN”

THE JOB 31 MAN

INTRODUCTION

A. Job 1:1, 8; 2:3

Job is consistently identified as a blameless and upright man, even by God, on more than one occasion, in challenging Satan.

B. Job 1:4-6

The first fact provided to substantiate the description of Job’s character is the piety he practiced at home in regard to the spiritual welfare of his children.

C. Job 31:1-40

This blameless and upright man describes his own character at length in this chapter. Whereas Proverbs 31 presents the character of the virtuous woman, Job 31 presents the character of the virtuous man.

I. “I HAVE MADE A COVENANT WITH MY EYES”

A. Job 31:1-4

The upright man is resolved not to sin with his eyes in regard to women.

B. Psalm 101:3

David was likewise determined to control what he viewed.

C. Luke 11:34

What our eyes take in affect the entire body.

II. “IF I HAVE WALKED IN FALSEHOOD...”

A. Job 31:5-8

The blameless man invites God to weigh him on the scales of justice to determine his integrity.

B. Proverbs 21:2

How one perceives himself is irrelevant, for God alone weighs hearts.

C. **1st Corinthians 4:4**

A clear conscience is not an accurate indication of innocence. Only an objective judge can determine that.

III. **“IF MY HEART HAS BEEN ENTICED BY A WOMAN...”**

A. **Job 31:9-12**

The upright man understands that if he surrenders to seduction, he would deserve to lose his wife.

B. **1st Corinthians 7:4**

Godly men submit their bodies to their wives.

C. **Hebrews 13:4**

Only within marriage does God approve of sexual relationships.

IV. **“IF I HAVE DESPISED THE CAUSE OF MY MANSERVANT...”**

A. **Job 31:13-15, 38-40_a**

The blameless man treats those who work for him well because he, too, serves a Master.

B. **Colossians 4:1**

The New Testament demands nothing less of employers.

C. **Deuteronomy 24:14-15; James 5:1-4**

Fair and timely wages paid to laborers is an issue God has always been concerned with.

V. **“IF I HAVE KEPT THE POOR FROM THEIR DESIRE...”**

A. **Job 31:16-23**

The upright man possesses a sense of responsibility toward the poor, fatherless, and widows.

B. **Proverbs 3:27-28**

Those you can help, you must help.

C. **1st John 3:17-18**

Ignoring the needy is a lovelessness that estranges one from God.

VI. **“IF I HAVE MADE GOLD MY HOPE...”**

A. **Job 31:24-25; 1:3**

Despite being the wealthiest man in his part of the world at the time, Job knew earthly gain should not be the object of his hope.

B. **Matthew 6:24**

God and money are two opposite goals. Loyalty to one cancels the other.

C. **Proverbs 23:4-5**

All wealth is temporary.

VII. **“IF I HAVE OBSERVED THE SUN...”**

A. **Job 31:26-28**

The upright man regards astrology as denial of God.

B. **Deuteronomy 4:15-19; Isaiah 47:13-14**

Worship of celestial bodies is absolutely forbidden and so is depending on them for information beyond what God intended.

C. **Romans 1:18-25**

Yes, we should readily take notice of God’s majesty on display in the skies, not to worship the creation, but to worship the Creator.

VIII. **“IF I HAVE REJOICED AT THE DESTRUCTION OF HIM WHO HATED ME...”**

A. **Job 31:29-30**

The blameless man knows not to hate, much less curse, his enemies.

B. **Luke 6:27-29**

Christ teaches us to love, bless, and pray for those who hate us.

C. **Romans 12:17-21**

Leave the vengeance to God.

IX. "IF THE MEN OF MY TENT..."

A. Job 31:31-32

The upright man takes hospitality seriously.

B. Genesis 19:1-3

Lot likewise refused to let strangers sleep in the street.

C. Hebrews 13:2

The examples of Lot and of Abraham stir us to hospitable action. We have no idea the amount of good that can be accomplished through this simple deed.

X. "IF I HAVE COVERED MY TRANSGRESSIONS..."

A. Job 31:33-37

The blameless man is not one who has never sinned, but one who accepts his blame without concealing it, corrects his behavior, and moves forward.

B. Proverbs 28:13

God offers no mercy to the one who acts like he doesn't need it.

C. 1st John 1:8-10

To pretend we have no sin is lying and it makes the Lord out to be a liar, too, since He died for our sins. It's best to confess.

XI. "THE WORDS OF JOB ARE ENDED."

A. Job 31:40_b

Having described blameless and upright character, Job quit talking.

B. 2nd Timothy 4:6-8

Paul summed up his service to the Almighty and rested his hope.

C. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

The meaning and purpose of life is to fear and obey God, period.