

# When the righteous suffer

Text: Job 1-2



Have you noticed my servant Job?

# When the righteous suffer



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<sup>1</sup>There once was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless—a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.

<sup>2</sup>He had seven sons and three daughters.

<sup>3</sup>He owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 teams of oxen, and 500 female donkeys. He also had many servants. He was, in fact, the richest person in that entire area.

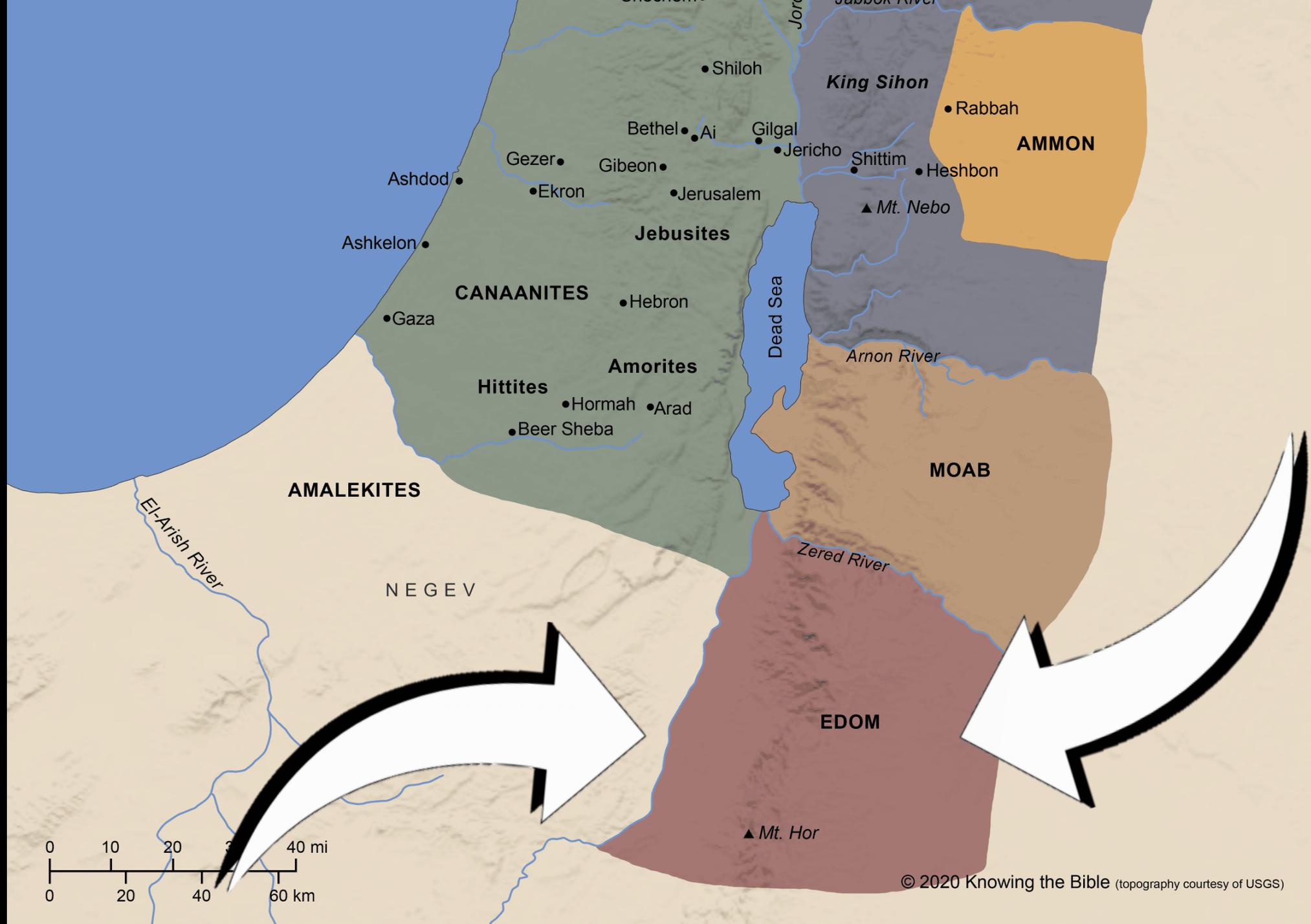
<sup>4</sup>Job’s sons would take turns preparing feasts in their homes, and they would also invite their three sisters to celebrate with them.

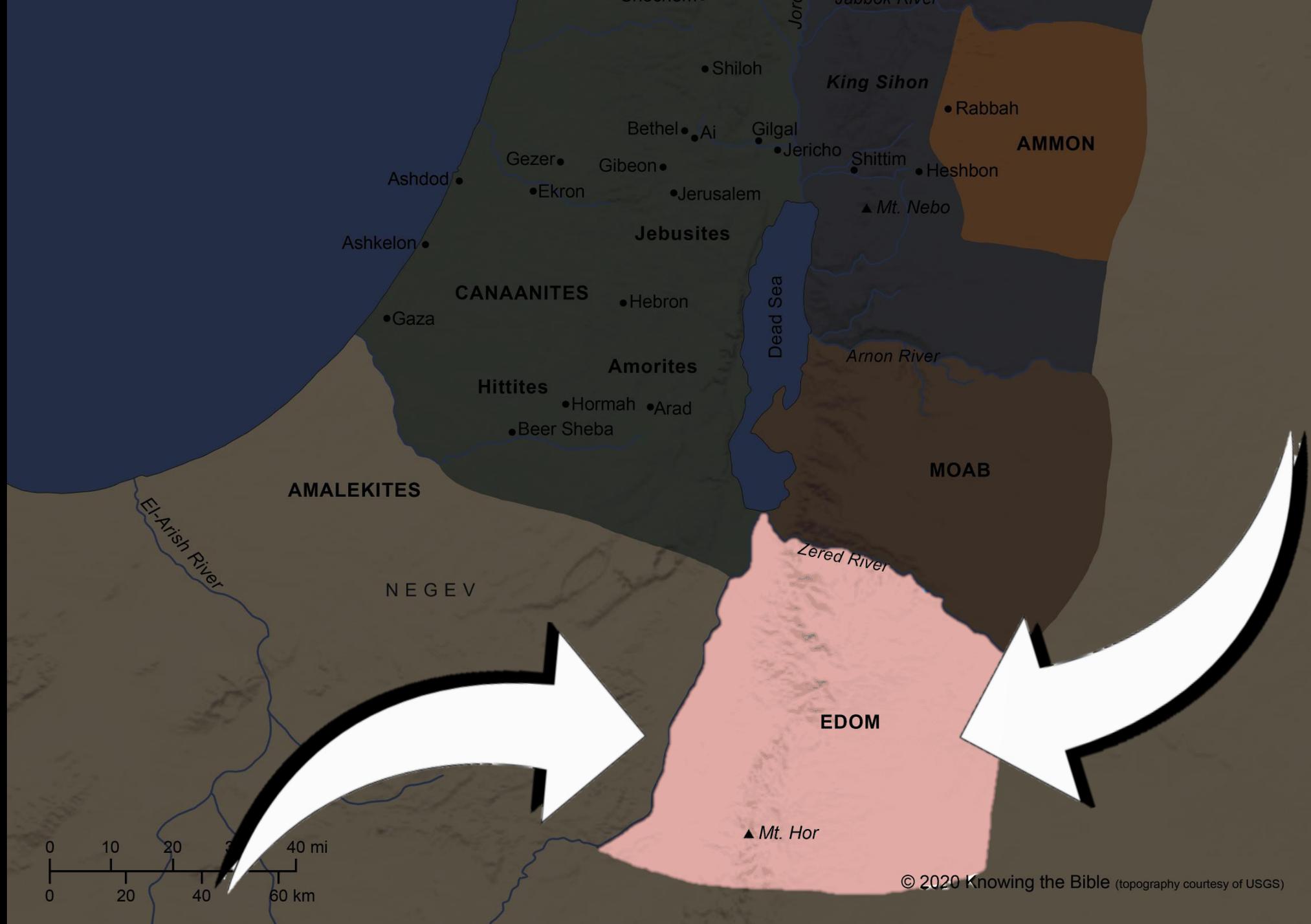
<sup>5</sup>When these celebrations ended—sometimes after several days—Job would purify his children. He would get up early in the morning and offer a burnt offering for each of them. For Job said to himself, “Perhaps my children have sinned and have cursed God in their hearts.” This was Job’s regular practice.

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# Canaan Before the Conquest of Joshua







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**Losing everything**

**Mental anguish**

**Personal attack**

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6 One day the members of the heavenly court came to present themselves before the LORD, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. 7 “Where have you come from?” the LORD asked Satan. Satan answered the LORD, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.”

8 Then the LORD asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil.”

9 Satan replied to the LORD, “Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God.

10 You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! 11 But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!”

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12“All right, you may test him,” the Lord said to Satan. “Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don’t harm him physically.” So Satan left the Lord’s presence.

13One day when Job’s sons and daughters were feasting at the oldest brother’s house,

14a messenger arrived at Job’s home with this news: “Your oxen were plowing, with the donkeys feeding beside them,

15when the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.”

16While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: “The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.”

17While he was still speaking, a third messenger

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arrived with this news: “Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.”

18 While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: “Your sons and daughters were feasting in their oldest brother’s home.

19 Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in from the wilderness and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.”

20 Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship.

21 He said, “I came naked from my mother’s womb, and I will be naked when I leave.

The Lord gave me what I had, and the Lord has taken it away. Praise the name of the Lord!”

22 In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.



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1 One day the members of the heavenly court came again to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them.  
2 “Where have you come from?” the Lord asked Satan. Satan answered the Lord, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.”

3 Then the Lord asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you urged me to harm him without cause.”

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4Satan replied to the Lord, “Skin for skin! A man will give up everything he has to save his life.  
5But reach out and take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!”

6“All right, do with him as you please,” the Lord said to Satan. “But spare his life.”

7So Satan left the Lord’s presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

8Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes.

9His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.”

10But Job replied, “You talk like a foolish woman. Should we accept only good things from the hand of God and never anything bad?” So in all this, Job said nothing wrong.

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## James 5

11 Think of how we regard as blessed those who have endured. You have heard of Job’s endurance and you have seen the Lord’s purpose, that the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

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•**Prevalence:** In 2020–2022, 21.5% of Australians aged 16–85 experienced a 12-month mental disorder, primarily anxiety (17.2%).

•**Demographic Impact:** Mental disorders are more common in females (24.6%) than males (18.0%), and highly prevalent among young people (38.8% of those aged 16–24).

•**System Pressure:** 54% of people with mental illness do not access treatment.

•**Economic & Social Burden:** Mental health issues represent 15% of the total health burden in Australia.

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**Remember who is really attacking you**

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