

# The Job Response



## *Job 1:12-22*

What was Job's response to catastrophic affliction? After Job received word that he had lost his livestock, his servants and his beloved children, what did he do? The character of a man is most clearly seen when tragedy strikes. Job **"fell down upon the ground and worshiped"** (Job 1:20). Instead of cursing and blaming God, he unexpectedly blessed the Name of the Lord (Job 1:21), and refused to accuse God of any wrong. He responded in a similar way soon thereafter when God allowed Satan to smite him with painful boils (Job 2:10). Other believers have imitated Job's faith.

**John Paton**, seeking to reach cannibals on the Pacific island of Tanna, painfully lost his wife and newborn son due to illness. John himself was greatly afflicted by fever. He built a grave for them both, and worshiped God frequently from that spot as he labored on for the salvation of the savage islanders.

In 1956 **Elizabeth Elliot's** husband and four other missionaries made contact with three savages in Ecuador and were viciously killed by them. How would Elizabeth respond to this tragedy? She worshiped God by loving those who had murdered her husband. God made it possible for Elizabeth to live among these Quichua Indians in order to win them to Christ.

**Horatio Spafford** suffered through the great Chicago fire of 1871, in which his real estate holdings were reduced to ashes. Two years later he decided to take his family to England. Just before they were to leave, a last-minute business development made it necessary for Spafford to remain in Chicago. In mid-ocean, the ship his family was on collided with another ship resulting in the drowning of his four daughters. Later he wrote the words of the song that have blessed millions: "It is Well with My Soul." ***A Job response indeed!***

~George Zeller: [www.middletownbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletownbiblechurch.org)

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