

RANGE ANXIETY

PRESENTED BY:

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SCRIPTURE

- ▶ Then **Job** replied to the **LORD**: (Job 42:1)
 - “I know that **you** can do all things; no plan of **yours** can be thwarted. (Job 42:2)
 - [You asked,] ‘Who is this that **obscures** my counsel without knowledge?’
 - Surely, I spoke of **things** I did not understand, **things** too wonderful for me to know. (Job 42:3)
 - [“You said,] ‘I listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ (Job 42:4)
 - My **ears** had heard of you, but now my **eyes** have seen you. (Job 42:5)
 - Therefore, I despise myself and **repent** in dust and ashes.” (Job 42:6)

SCRIPTURE

- ▶ After Job had prayed for his friends, the **LORD** made him **prosperous** again and gave him **twice** as much as he had before. (Job 42:10)
- ▶ All his **brothers** and **sisters** and **everyone** who had known him before **came** and **ate** with him in his house. (Job 42:11a)
- ▶ They comforted and consoled him over all the **trouble** the **LORD** had brought upon him, and each one **gave** him a piece of silver and a gold ring. (Job 42:11b)

SCRIPTURE

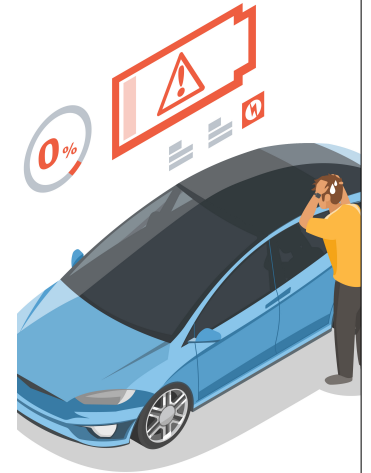
- ▶ The **LORD** blessed the latter part of **Job's life** more than the first. (Job 42:12a)
- ▶ He had ...
 - fourteen thousand sheep,
 - six thousand camels,
 - a thousand yoke of oxen and
 - a thousand donkeys. (Job 42:12b)
- ▶ He also had **seven sons** and **three daughters**. (Job 42:13)

SCRIPTURE

- ▶ The first daughter he named **Jemimah**, the second **Keziah**, and the third **Keren-Happuch**.
- ▶ Nowhere in the land were **women as beautiful** as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an **inheritance** along with their brothers. (Job 42:12-15)
- ▶ After this, **Job** lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the **fourth generation**.
- ▶ And so he died, old and full of years. (Job 42:16-17)

INTRODUCTION

- It's every **EV** owner's nightmare. You're driving your **electric vehicle**, and suddenly, you lose power!
- According to one EV owner,
 - "I began to lose power in the car — the car was doing **45 mph** and began to slow down gradually despite me pressing the **acceleration pedal**."
 - The **range** shown on the battery was **10 miles**. I was only **2.5** [miles away from a] **supercharger** at that time.
 - I pulled over my car and stopped on the shoulder, afraid that if I kept going, the **car** might shut down in the middle of the road.
 - At **night** on an un-lit road, this would not be good."



INTRODUCTION

- ▶ The fear that your **car** may run out of fuel (gas or electric) is called "**range anxiety**," a term first reported in the press on September 1, 1997, by **Richard Aiello** in the San Diego Business Journal.
- ▶ The **emotion** is more common among **EV owners** than those who drive vehicles with traditional internal combustion engines (ICEs).
- ▶ Perhaps this is because **gas stations** are more numerous than **EV charging locations**.
- ▶ Of course, this is rapidly changing.



INTRODUCTION

- ▶ "**Range anxiety**," although it's a term usually associated with **EV owners**, is a **fear** most people have experienced.
- ▶ We're out in the **middle of nowhere**, and suddenly, we notice that the **fuel gauge** is on "**E**"!
- ▶ In 1975, I was on my way back to the **University of Kentucky** from **Ashland** when I remembered I left my **term paper** at home.
- ▶ So I got off at the **next exit (Morehead)**, floored it back home, picked up the paper, and made it to Lexington. Whew!



INTRODUCTION

- Just when I turned off of **I-64** to go north on **I-64 & I-75**, the **engine** started sputtering and then quit.
- It was now **dark outside**; it was raining, and it was cold.
- I pulled over on the **shoulder**, and traffic was whizzing past me. I could feel the **car** move with every car that passed by me.
- Waiting for **traffic** to clear, I got out of my car and started walking. I was about two miles south of the Paris Pike exit.
- Just then, a **car** pulled up and offered to help.



INTRODUCTION

- I said, "**Sure!**" without having to think about it.
- They took me to the Paris Pike exit (Exit 113) and dropped me off at a gas station.
- It so happened that a **State Trooper** was sitting in his Police Car at the same gas station.
- It also happened that the gas station had a **5-gallon gas can** handy, and when I put fuel in it, the State Policeman took me back to my car with all his **lights flashing**.
- The **moral of the story** is this: when I ran out of gas that night, something very special happened to me.
- It is as if **God** knew I was low on fuel and put all kinds of **good people** around me to prevent a **problem** from becoming a disaster.



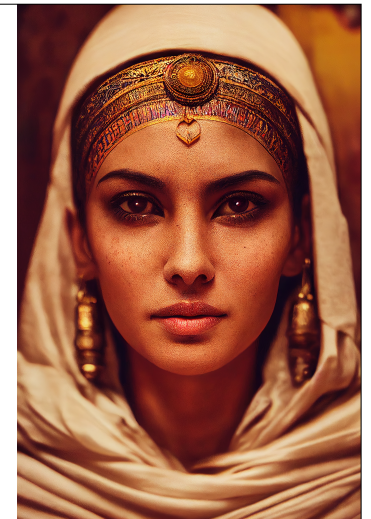
JOB

- Speaking about a **disaster**.
- The story about **Job** is fascinating, deserving of our **sympathy**, perhaps even our **pity**.
- As described in Chapter 1 (See Job 1:13-19)
 - **Job** lost his oxen, donkeys, sheep, servants, camels, seven sons, and three daughters.
- Then, on another **terrible day**, Job lost his **health**.
 - He had **sores** and **boils** from the **top** of his head to the **soles** of his feet.



JOB

- Surprisingly, he was rather **stoic** about it:
 - "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the **Lord** gave, and the **Lord** has taken away; blessed be the **name of the Lord**." (Job 1:21)
- His wife said to him,
 - "Are you still holding on to your integrity? **Curse God and die!**" (Job 2:9)
- He replied,
 - "You are talking like a **foolish woman**. Shall we accept good from God and not trouble?" (Job 2:10a)
- In all this, Job did not **sin** in what he said. (Job 2:10b)



JOB

- ▶ Still, **Job** was understandably **confused**, and he let **God** know about it.
 - He complained,
 - Wallowed in despair, and
 - **Cursed** the **day** he was born.
- ▶ And who wouldn't?
- ▶ On top of all of this, he had to sit and listen to "so-called" **friends** who all implied that all of his **troubles** were caused by **unconfessed sin**.
- ▶ This continues for the next **35 chapters** until the reader gets to the last five chapters of this 42-chapter book.



JOB

- ▶ Starting in **Job 38:1ff**,
 - **God** appears in a **whirlwind** and delivers a series of **rhetorical questions** that emphasize the vastness and incomprehensibility of **divine wisdom** and **power**.
- ▶ He lets **Job** know in no uncertain terms that Job's **understanding** is severely limited because,
 - among other things,
 - he is a **mortal** and cannot see the **big picture**.



JOB

- ▶ So, God's **scolding** (chapters 38-41) begins with a **sharp rebuke**:
 - "Gird up your **loins** like a man. {Stand up}
 - I will **question** you, and you shall [answer] me" (Job 38:3).
- ▶ First question:
 - "Where were **you** when I laid the **foundation of the earth?** (Job 38:4a)
 - Tell me if you have **understanding**" (Job 38:4b).

JOB

- ▶ And then **God's onslaught** continues:
 - "Who determined its **measurements** — surely **you know!** Or who stretched the **line** upon it?
 - On what were its **bases** sunk, or who laid its **cornerstone** ..." (Job 38:5-6).
- ▶ Finally, **Job** begins to mumble an **apology**:
 - "I know that **you** can do all things and that **no purpose** of yours can be thwarted" (Job 42:2).
- ▶ Through all of this, God never tells Job the **reason** for all his troubles, but he does tell us.
- ▶ We find it in the first **two chapters**.

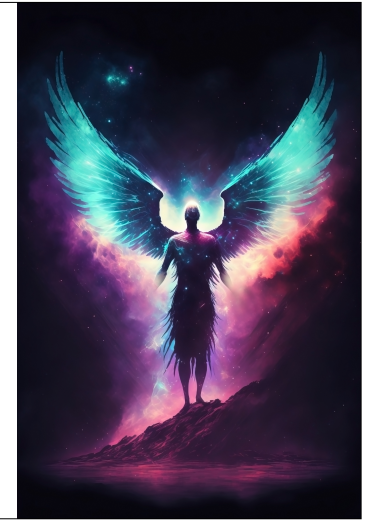
WHAT JOB DIDN'T KNOW?

- One day, the **angels** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. (Job 1:6)
- The **LORD** said to **Satan**, "Where have you come from?" (Job 1:7a)
- **Satan** answered the LORD,
 - "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it." (Job 1:7a)
- Then the **LORD** said to Satan,
 - "Have you considered my servant **Job**? (Job 1:8a)
 - There is no one on **earth** like him; he is blameless and upright, a **man** who fears God and shuns evil." (Job 1:8b)



WHAT JOB DIDN'T KNOW?

- "Does **Job** fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. (Job 1:9)
- "Have you not put a **hedge** around him, his household, and everything he has? (Job 1:10a)
- You have **blessed** the work of his hands so that his **flocks** and **herds** are spread throughout the land. (Job 1:10b)
- But stretch out your hand and **strike** everything he has, and he will surely **curse** you to your face." (Job 1:11)
- The **LORD** said to Satan,
 - "Very well, then, **everything** he has is in your hands, but on the **man himself** do not lay a finger." (Job 1:12)



WHAT JOB DIDN'T KNOW?

- ▶ As you perhaps remember, when **Satan** left the presence of the **Lord**, all hell broke loose against **Job's** family and possessions.
 - The **Sabeans** rode off with all of **Job's** oxen and donkeys.
 - The **Chaldeans** came also and rode off with all of **Job's** camels.
 - Out of nowhere, a **strong wind** came from the desert and destroyed the **house** where all of his sons and daughters were feasting—killing them all.
- ▶ In all this, the Bible says,
 - **Job** did not sin by charging God with **wrongdoing**. (Job 1:22)

WHAT JOB DIDN'T KNOW?

- On another day, the **angels** came to present themselves before the **LORD**, and **Satan** also came with them to present himself before him. (Job 2:1)
- And the **LORD** said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming through the **earth** and going back and forth in it." (Job 2:2)
- Then the **LORD** said to Satan,
 - "Have you considered my servant **Job**?
 - There is no one on **earth** like him; he is blameless and upright, a **man** who fears God and shuns evil.
 - And he still maintains his **integrity**, though you incited me against him to **ruin him** without any reason." (Job 2:3)



WHAT JOB DIDN'T KNOW?

- “Skin for skin!” **Satan** replied.
 - “A **man** will give all he has for his **own life**. (Job 2:4)
 - But stretch out your hand and **strike** his flesh and bones, and he will surely **curse** you to your face.” (Job 2:5)
- The **LORD** said to Satan,
 - “Very well, then, **he** is in your hands; but you must spare his **life**.” (Job 2:6)
- So **Satan** went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted **Job** with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. (Job 2:7)



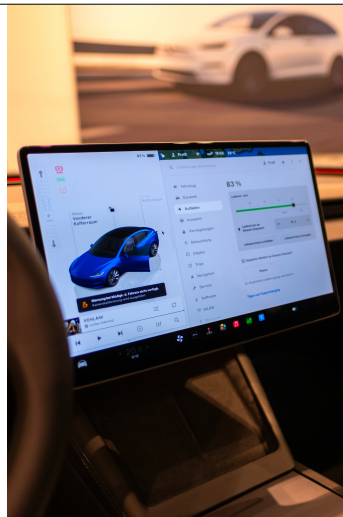
SO THEN WHAT IS THE POINT?

- Satan accused **God** of **showing favoritism**—giving unfair preferential treatment to one **person** or **group** at the expense of another.
- So then, to prove that he was **innocent**, **God** allowed Satan to **test Job's integrity**.
- What the **trial** revealed was not just **Job's integrity** but also the **righteousness** of **God's judgment**.
- Both **Job** and **God** emerged as **paragons of integrity**.
- Therefore, when you are **facing trials** and everyone around you assumes you have unconfessed sin, it might simply be that **God** is boasting about **your faith** and bragging about **your character**.



IT'S HARD TO RUN OUT OF POWER

- As much as **EV owners** may **fear** losing power and getting stuck in the middle of the interstate at rush hour, it is **not** likely to **happen**.
- **Why?** Because the **Navigation System** of these automobiles does everything to **warn** us and **guide** us **safely** to our destination.
- It does this by **calculating** (the following) and then notifying us what to do.
 - Our **speed** and the number of miles for our trip.
 - The level of remaining **electrical power** in the batteries.
 - Tire Pressure, Outside Air Temperature, and current published winds.
 - The location of **recharging facilities** along our route.



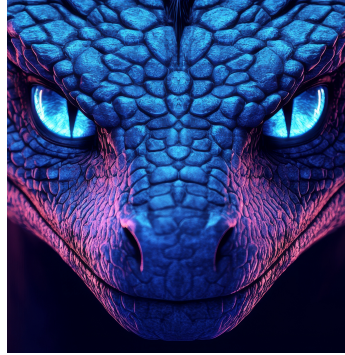
IT'S HARD TO RUN OUT OF POWER

- If everyone is honest with themselves, our **lives** are full of
 - trials,
 - trouble,
 - fears,
 - worries, and
 - all kinds of anxieties—such as “**range anxiety**.”
- All of this can cause us to ask the question,
 - “Will we **arrive** at our **desired destination**?”
- However, through **God's** faithfulness and love, he will see us through if we **don't** give in to “**fear** and **unbelief**.”



THE ACCUSER

- The **Book of Revelation**, directly mentions **Satan** as the accuser of the brethren.
- The **great dragon** was hurled down — that **ancient serpent** called the devil, or **Satan**, who leads the whole world astray. (Rev. 12:9a)
- He was hurled to the **earth**, and his angels with him. (Rev. 12:9b)
- For the accuser of our **brothers**, who accuses them before our **God** day and night, has been hurled down. (Rev. 12:10)
- So then, if the above text is **futuristic**, what is **Satan** doing right now?
- He is accusing us before **God** as **unworthy recipients** of his **grace**.



THE ACCUSER

- Nevertheless, **God**, in his **wisdom**, has given us an **advocate** who teaches us how to be **overcomers** in a world that is hostile to us.
- The **Holy Spirit** is our Helper, Comforter, and Guide.
- The Greek word translated here as “**Counselor**” means “**one who is called alongside**” and has the **idea** of someone who encourages and exhorts.
- **Jesus** gave the **Spirit** as “**compensation**” for His absence ...
 - to **perform** the functions toward us that **He would have done**
 - if He had remained **personally** with us.



THE ADVOCATE

- In other words, just like some **EV vehicles**, the **Holy Spirit** helps us to reach our **final destination** safely and without running out of **juice**.
- This is **important** because we live in a world where we are constantly being **tested**, and life is full of **trials**, which can wear us down.
- Through the **Holy Spirit's** help and guidance, we can be **overcomers**.
- He reminds us that we are **new creatures** in **Christ** and that **we** can do all things through Christ, who gives us **strength**.

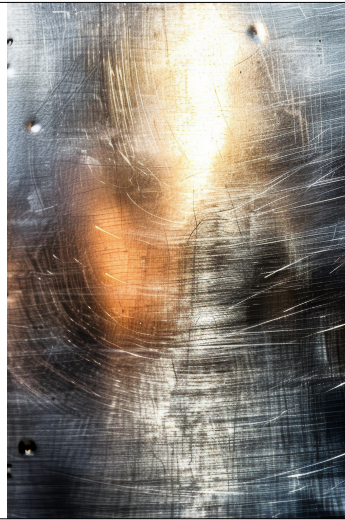
OUR VICTORY

- As the Scripture says (Rev. 12:11), they overcame him (**Satan**)
 - by the **blood of the Lamb**
 - (the atonement we have in Christ) and
 - by the **word of their testimony**
 - (their public confession of faith, (i.e., Baptism)) - {See also Romans 10:9-10}
 - they **did not love their lives** so much as to shrink from death
 - (unshakeable loyalty to Christ no matter what).



CONCLUSION

- According to the **Apostle Paul**,
 - Now, we see things **imperfectly**, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with **perfect clarity**. (1 Cor. 13:12a NLT-SE)
 - All that I know now is **partial** and **incomplete**, but then I will know everything **completely**, just as **God** now knows me completely. (1 Cor. 13:12b NLT-SE)
- According to **Isaiah**,
 - But those who trust in the **LORD** will find **new strength**. They will soar **high** on wings like eagles. They will **run** and **not** grow weary. They will **walk** and **not** faint. (Is. 40:31 NLT-SE)



CONCLUSION

- So then, what does trusting the **Lord** look like?
 - We wholly rely upon **God's** promises, wisdom, power, and love to **help us** in every circumstance.
 - Even though we might **not understand** everything,
 - we accept that **God's plans** are perfect, holy, and righteous, and
 - he works **all things** together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).
 - They do **not fear** trouble, drought, economic calamity or persecution, or running out of gas on **I-75**,
 - for **God** will be their provider and
 - **guide** them safely home to the **place** where they want to be.

