



Job

A message for the ages




When we think of the story of Job...

...we assume its about why bad things happen to good people.

Its about the big question...Is God just and does He use the strict principles of justice to run the world?



The Book of Job

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- **Author not known and there is no historical setting**
 - **Set in the land of Uz - south east Jordan?**
 - **Likely written between 750 and 1000 years BC**
 - **A Wisdom book**


Our Starting Place ... Theodicy – the nature of divine justice

The human view of the nature of divine justice

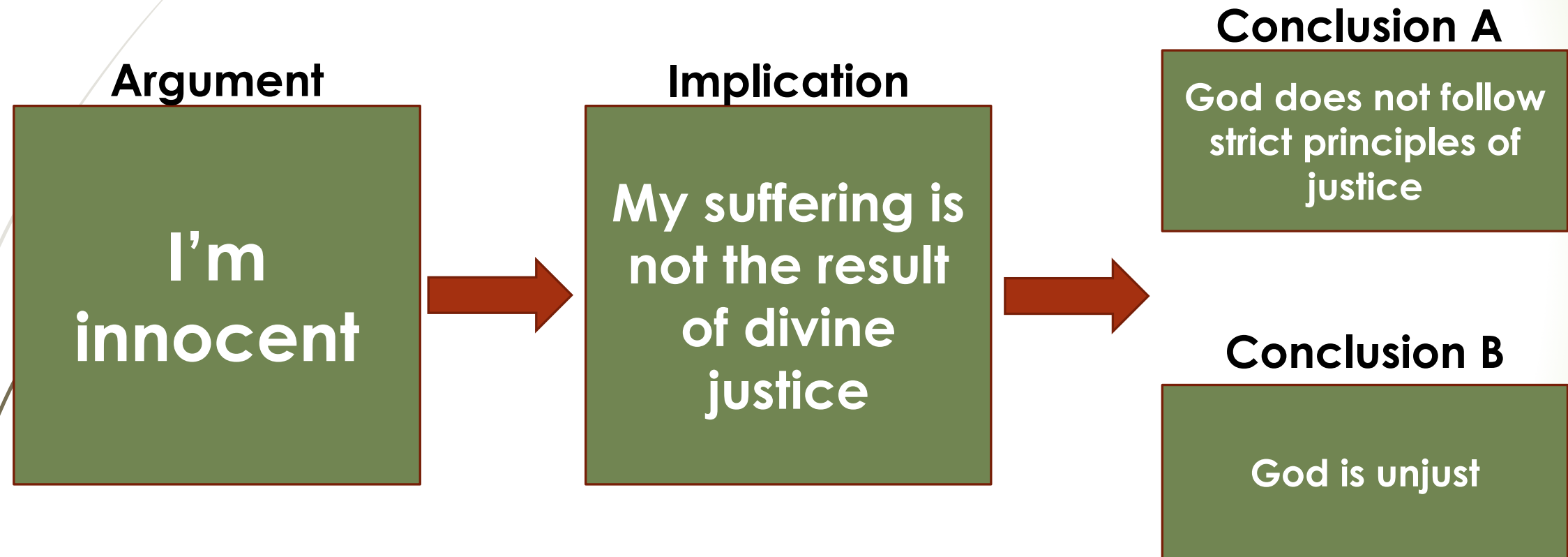
Human Action	God's Justice
Wise, Good & Obedient	Reward & Success
Evil, Ignorant & Disobedient	Disaster & Punishment



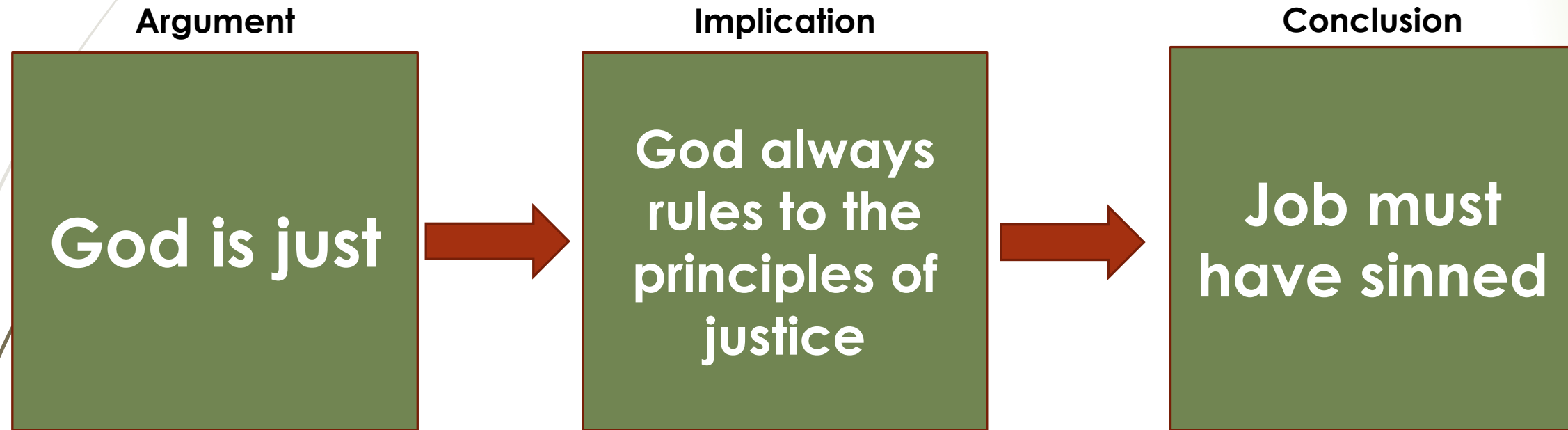
The Story Setup...

- **Job is faithful, pious, caring and generous man who is wealthy**
 - **Satan argues with God that the only reason that Job is faithful is because he is so blessed**
 - **God agrees that Satan can test Job and Job loses everything!**
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Job's Position...



Job's Friends (Eliphaz, Bildad & Zophar) have an Opinion...



Along comes Elihu...

Argument

God is just

Implication

God always
rules to the
principles of
justice

Conclusion

Job's suffering
is a warning to
avoid future
sin and it
builds
character

Job is on the slide...

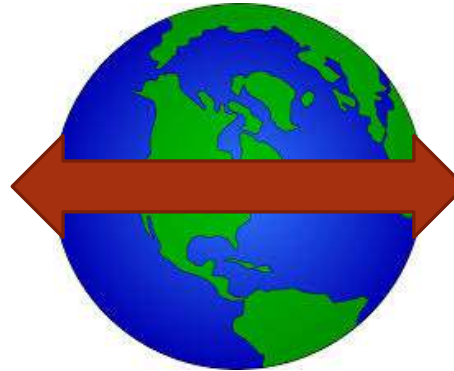
- “He destroys the blameless and the wicked, he mocks the despair of the innocent.” Job 9: 22-23
- “God attacks me, tears me up in anger and gnashes his teeth at me.” Job 16:9
- “Why has God denied me justice and made my life bitter?” Job 27:2
- “What hope do the godless have when God takes their lives away?” Job 27:8

“I sign my defense, let the Almighty answer me!” Job 31:35

Gods responds...

- “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundations? "Job 38:4
God’s Message: You don’t know enough to assume to accuse me!
- The Behemoth and the Leviathan – Symbols of danger
God’s message: Dangerous world out there...

Good
Beautiful
Bountiful
Ordered



Wild
Dangerous
Uncertain
Free will



The Big Question...

Q: Why is there suffering in this world?

A: We live in this amazing world that was never designed to prevent suffering!



The Message of the Book of Job

- God is sovereign and we are not
- God knows all about the world, while we actually know very little
- God is always just, but he does not always explain his justice to us
- God expects us to trust in his character and his sovereignty when bad things happen to us

