**Course Title: Job, Victim to Victor**

March 5 through 28 May

**Introduction of Instructors:** Deacon Joseph Moss and Dr. Gary Huckabay (each introduces the other)

**Course Objective**

To address 10 major themes and issues in the book of Job that have practical application for today’s Christian and dispel a commonly held concept that Job teaches us to be more suffering victims than courageous victors.

**References and Participant Resources**

References: We have provided an annotated bibliography. This does not include all the resources consulted like references included in BibleWorks and Olive Tree, etc.

Participant resources: some background information and a theological summary; a brief annotated outline of Job; and character sketches of the major personalities.

**About the Title of the Course**

“Victim to Victory” – What does that mean?

Victim to victory stories: those will be engaging pericopes at the beginning of each lesson with little pizzaz and maybe a surprise or two.

**A Word about the Thematic Approach:**

By thematic approach we mean that instead of a verse by verse (exegetical) approach we chose to select common verses from various speeches and tie them together in a theme – 10 themes.

The 10 themes: The Role of the Adversary, Perspectives on God in Job; Perspectives on Job’s Innocence; Perspectives on Suffering in Job; Perspectives on Faith in Job; Perspectives on Justice in Job; Perspectives on Sin in Job; Perspectives on Job as a Type of Christ; Perspectives on Life in Job; Perspectives on Wisdom in Job; Lessons from Job for Today.

**Class Format**

Note: the Michael Card music in the background relates to our theme called, “A Job Suite”

1. Victim to Victory Story (Modern Era Jobs)
2. Introduction to the Theme
   1. Definition of the Theme
   2. Participant Expectations
3. Perspectives on the Theme (**Gary**)
   1. Key references for the Theme
   2. Complicating cultural influences
   3. Teachings from Job on the Theme
4. Engagement Questions and Closing Applications

**Background to the Book of Job**

Historical period

Location – Uz (pronounced “oots”)

We do not know where Uz/Uts was but see Gen 36:28, Jer 25:20, and Lam 4:21 for hints.

Literary background

Placement in the biblical context

Wisdom literature

Combination of narrative and poetry

Authorship (not Moses)

Influence of other ancient texts

Personalities (see list of character sketches provided) **(Joseph)**

**Setting the Stage (Chs 1-2)**

I. Narrative introduction

2. Job the Prosperous

3. Job the Righteous

4. Job the Unknowing Target

5. Job the Victim

**Application Questions**

1. Can you name some biblical personalities, other than Jesus, who were righteous “victims” and “victors”? Justify your choices.

2. How would you characterize the “friends” of Job at this point?