**The Structure of the Book of Job**

**Prose Introduction**

Chapters 1 – 2 [Narrative backdrop – God and Job | Key: Job is an innocent man.]

Job’s Initial Speech: Chapter 3 [The 3 friends represent the Law of Retribution, who are portrayed as sages – wise friends. The Book of Job argues against the Old Testament’s Law of Retribution.]

**First Cycle**

Eliphaz, Chapters 4 – 5

Job, Chapters 6 – 7

Bildad, Chapters 8

Job, Chapters 9 – 10

Zophar, Chapter 11

Job, Chapters 12 - 14

**Second Cycle**

Eliphaz, Chapters 15

Job, Chapters 16 – 17

Bildad, Chapters 18

Job, Chapters 19

Zophar, Chapter 20

Job, Chapter 21

**Third Cycle**

Eliphaz, Chapters 22

Job, Chapters 23 – 24

Bildad, Chapters 25

Job, Chapters 26

Zophar [omit]

Job, Chapter 27

Poem on Wisdom: Chapter 28

Job’s Peroration: Chapter 29 – 31

Elihu’s Speech: Chapter 32 – 37

Yahweh’s Speeches: Chapter 38 – 42:6 (with Job’s interruptive submissions)

Prose Epilogue: Chapter 42:7-17