

# Job 1:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

## Analysis

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The specific enumeration of Job's wealth (7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 donkeys) demonstrates that blessing in the patriarchal era was tangible and measurable. The phrase 'greatest of all the men of the east' establishes Job's international reputation, making his subsequent suffering a public spectacle that demands theological explanation.

## Historical Context

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In the ancient Near East, livestock wealth determined social status and economic power. The 'east' likely refers to the region of Uz, possibly in Edom or Northern Arabia, where patriarchal society flourished before Israel's formation.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. Does God still measure blessing in material terms, or has the gospel redefined prosperity?
2. How should Christians view wealth in light of Job's story?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיָהּ י	מִקְנֵהוּ	שִׁבְעַת	אַלְפֵי י	צֹאן	וְשָׁלֹשׁ	אַלְפֵי י
H1961	His substance	also was seven	thousand	sheep	and three	thousand
	H4735	H7651	H505	H6629	H7969	H505
אֶתֹנֹת	מֵאֹת	וְחֲמִשָּׁה	בָּקָר	וְחֲמִשָּׁה	מֵאֹת	גְּמֵלִים
she asses	hundred	and five	of oxen	and five	hundred	camels
H860	H3967	H2568	H1241	H2568	H1581	
וְהָיָה	מְאֹד	רָבָה	וְהָיָה	כֵּן	וְהָיָה	גָּדֹל
H1961	so that this man	and a very	H1961	H376	H1931	was the greatest
	H376	H3966				H1419
מִכָּל	בְּנֵי	קִדְמָה:				
H3605	of all the men	of the east				
	H1121	H6924				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 29:25** (Parallel theme): I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.

**Job 42:12** (Parallel theme): So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

**Judges 6:3** (Parallel theme): And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

**1 Kings 4:30** (Parallel theme): And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

**Numbers 23:7** (Parallel theme): And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, saying, Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel.

**Proverbs 10:22** (Parallel theme): The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

**Genesis 12:16** (Parallel theme): And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.

**Genesis 12:5** (Parallel theme): And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

**Genesis 29:1** (Parallel theme): Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east.

**Genesis 13:6** (Parallel theme): And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.