

THE BOOK OF JOB
JOB 10:13-22

INTRODUCTION:

1. Predestination and foreknowledge go hand in hand, but what do they mean? (1 Pet. 1.20; Acts 3.18; Eph. 1.11; Acts 2.23)
2. To those who believe suffering is a form of punishment, the book of Job addresses why we suffer (Job 1.10,11)
3. **JOB 10.13:** *“And these things You have hidden in Your heart; I know that this was with You.”* Was Job predestined to suffer?

I. DISCOURAGED

- A. Job described his suffering in three ways.
 1. He suffered because of sin. (Job 10.14,15; cf. Ps. 7.11)
 2. He suffered though righteous. (Job 10.15; cf. Ps. 5.12)
 3. He suffered because he was comfortable. (Job 10.16)
- B. Have you ever felt that way?
 1. As a demanding father can discourage his children, so Job felt he could never please God. (cf. Col. 3.21)
 2. Is it impossible to please God? (Heb. 11.6)
 3. When God seems impossible to please, it helps to remember that He is a God of grace. (Titus 3.4-7)

II. TARGETED

- A. Job described his suffering in two ways.
 1. God was unrelenting in both the frequency and severity of His attacks. (Job 10.16,17; Job 1.14,16,17; 2.7)
 2. Using two illustrations, Job characterizes God as a lion and a soldier. (Job 10.16,17)
- B. Have you ever felt that way?
 1. Does it feel like troubles are unrelenting? (Job 14.1)
 2. Why does suffering come into our lives? (Ecc. 9.11)
 3. When you suffer, look to the future. (Rom. 8.18)
 4. When you suffer, look to others. (2 Cor. 1.8; 1 Pet. 5.9)

CONCLUSION: If you are hurting, it is tempting to blame God. But suffering is best handled by faith.

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

August 13, 2023

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

A PASSION FOR GOD’S WORD

A familiar passage is found in Acts 17.11. The apostle Paul was on his second missionary journey. He had arrived in the city of Berea and shared the good news of Jesus Christ to a gathering of Jews. The Bible records how they received Paul’s message. **ACTS 17.11:** *“These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness.”*

Notice specifically the word “readiness.” It comes from the Greek word “prothumos.” The word “thumos” literally means “to breath hard.” It is the word that gives us this idea of having passion. It has as a prefix the word “pro” which means “in front of.” When Paul arrived, these Bereans had a passion for what God had to say even before Paul began speaking. They were eager to hear.

How passionate were they? There are two other words which will help us to know their degree of passion. The first word is “searched.” It is a word that means to engage in careful investigation. The second word is “daily.” They did not just open their Bibles and study, then close them for the rest of the week. They carefully investigated the scriptures every day.

How passionate are you to know the scriptures? Is a thorough investigation of the Bible a daily part of your life? When we are passionate, we know we will have God’s approval (2 Tim. 2.15).

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LIVING IN A VIOLENT WORLD

1 SAMUEL 22:19

INTRODUCTION:

1. With mass shootings, random killings, and repeated assaults, it seems this world is more violent than ever.
2. In 1 Samuel 22, we can read about the violence and senseless killing by the king of Israel. [READ 1 SAMUEL 22.17-19]
3. From this Old Testament example, we can learn why violence exists and how to make this world a better place.

I. WHY DOES VIOLENCE EXIST?

- A. There are some who have an inclination toward violence.
 1. **1 SAMUEL 22.6:** “Saul...with spear in his hand.”
 2. Saul was inclined toward violence. (1 Sam. 19.9,10)
 3. From movies, to video games, to news media, our culture today is infatuated by violence. (cf. Gen. 6.13)
- B. There are some who struggle with mental illness.
 1. **1 SAMUEL 22.7,8:** Saul was self-focused.
 2. **1 SAMUEL 22.9,10:** Saul thought Doeg was taking sides.
 3. **1 SAMUEL 22.11-15:** Saul accused the priests of conspiring against him.
 4. All of this came from a deep depression. (1 Sam. 19.9)
 5. Today, much of the violent crimes are committed by those who are mentally imbalanced. Excuse? (Ps. 52)
- C. There are some who deflect responsibility.
 1. **1 SAMUEL 22.20-22:** David believe that he was to blame for Saul’s violence, but God blames Saul. (Ps. 52.5-7)
 2. It is easy to blame others for our mistakes. But each one will be held responsible for their choices. (2 Cor. 5.10)

II. OUR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD ONE ANOTHER

- A. We are to educate one another.
 1. We cannot justify what God has condemned.
 2. **ROMANS 12.9:** There is good and evil.
- B. We are to promote love and kindness.
 1. **ROMANS 12.10:** “kindly affectionate”
 2. We are to love all people. (Eph. 4.31)
- C. We are to avoid seeking revenge. (Rom. 12.14-18)

CONCLUSION: How you treat others will either make you part of the problem or part of the solution. (Rom. 1.28-32)

PROOF OF GOD

God never expects us to believe anything without proof. Jesus proved He was the Son of God. To unbelieving Jews, Jesus said “*though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him*” (John 10.38). The Holy Spirit tells us to “*prove all things*” (1 Thess. 5.21). How do we prove the existence of God? After all, “*no one has seen God at any time*” (John 1.18).

How can we prove that which cannot be seen? The answer is in that which is seen. You cannot see the wind. But you can see the rustling of the leaves. You cannot see the sunlight. But you can see the shadow. Just as the leaves prove the wind and the shadows prove the sunlight, so the visible proves the existence of the invisible God. Consider two visible evidences that prove that God exists.

First, the creation proves the Creator. We learn from Psalm 19.1 that “*the heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.*” Romans 1.20 explains that “*His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made.*” No one can deny the existence of an orderly universe. There is mathematical precision which suggests a Mathematician. There are laws of nature which suggests a Lawmaker. There are scenes of beauty in a sunset or a seashore that cannot be properly captured by man’s artistry. Does that not suggest an Artist? Even the intricacies of our own bodies leave us in awe saying, “*I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Your works*” (Ps. 139.14). We believe in God because of the creation.

Second, the Son proves the Father. Jesus is the visible representation of the invisible God. It is true that “*no man has seen or can see*” God (1 Tim. 6.16). But the invisible God has made Himself visible in the appearance of His Son. That Jesus existed in the flesh is undeniable. His existence is part of recorded secular history. The apostles reported that they have seen, heard and touched Jesus (1 John 1.1). But who is Jesus? We are told that “*God was manifested in the flesh*” (1 Tim. 3.16). Colossians 2.9 says that in Jesus “*dwells all the fulness of the godhead bodily.*” Jesus and the Father are two different beings. But Jesus came as a representation of God. When Philip said, “*Show us the Father,*” Jesus answered, “*He who has seen Me has seen the Father*” (John 14.8,9).

To deny the existence of God is to deny our own senses. The things that we see, hear, and feel is all the proof we need that there is an invisible God. And it is He who desires a personal relationship with you made possible through His Son.

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