



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Job Sermon Series
Supports Session 1: Faith Tested
Sermon Title: "When It Rains, It Pours"
Passage: Job 1:8-22

Connection to Job 1

God permitted Satan to strike all of Job's possessions and family. However, Job revealed the depth of his faith in adversity and did not charge God with wrong.

Introduction/Opening

Have you ever heard the phrase, "When it rains it pours"? This phrase is often used when difficult events seem to come all at once. You may have had a time when a string of negative situations came one after the other. You may have had a dishwasher that needed to be replaced followed by your car breaking down or other situations such as close relatives or friends passing within days of each other.

Job had four life-changing situations happen one right after the other. Job's life was completely devastated. However, when Job's faith was tested, he chose to focus on God and worship Him.

Outline

I. Struggles do not equal judgment (vv. 8-12).

We read that Job was a righteous man, yet the Book of Job describes terrible tragedies that Satan brought about in Job's life. Therefore, believers should not interpret all negative situations as the judgment of God. The reason Job faced and endured these tragedies was because he was a righteous man. Job endured Satan's attack because of his unshakable faith in

- a. God has a plan (Gen. 50:20).
- b. God has a purpose (John 9:1-6).
- c. Testing should be expected (1 Pet. 4:12-13).

Believers in Jesus should look to Christ when their faith is tested.

II. Satan tailors your suffering (vv. 13-19)

It can be easy to view Job's suffering as a cookie-cutter example of actions Satan employees against all believers. However, Job was struck in ways Satan believed would do the most harm to Job to achieve the goal of Job cursing God "to [his] face" (v. 11). Satan will use whatever methods he can to achieve our downfall.

The way Satan might strike us or someone we love may look completely different for us than it does for someone else. Our suffering and temptations are tailored for our own unique personalities and weaknesses. Are there situations faced or temptations endured that would not crush or tempt someone else in the way they would us? Perhaps something that is easily dismissed by one of us is something Satan specifically uses to debilitate another believer. Satan uniquely tailors the attack to the individual.

Believers need to be aware of our weaknesses and rely on the Holy Spirit for strength in enduring these tailored attacks. Notice the attack on Job was through his economic security (vv. 14-15), his employees (vv. 16-17), and his family (vv. 18-19). We may have all these areas working fine, but Satan chooses to attack us through issues of our character or addictions, enslaving us in guilt and shame. What areas of weakness do or could Satan use to attack you in order to take your eyes off Christ?

III. Grief is real (vv. 20-22).

While Job is noticeably worshipping the Lord in this passage, it is also clear he grieves his immense loss. Believers should acknowledge that God is on His throne, knowing that confidence in God's sovereignty does not erase the pain of profound loss. Followers of Christ are not left alone in their pain and are given a Counselor in whom to take their grief.

The Scripture does not fault Job for his grief or his expression of grief. Believers should view Job's grief (and our own) not as moments of weakness, but as a pathway to honor Him and find healing. Believers need to trust God not only as Counselor in their grief, but as Healer.

Conclusion

Believers are sure to experience trials and the temptation to say, "When it rains, it pours" in response to the amount of hardships they face. However, as believers we should ask ourselves how God might be working for His glory and our good through what we are facing. How might God be conforming us more into the image of His Son? We also need to consider the weaknesses we find in our hearts and acknowledge that Satan uses them to tailor attacks against us. The hearts of believers are not immune to hurt and certainly break during these events, but we learn from Job 1:8-22 that God is not surprised by what we might face and He is powerful enough to see us through in the power of Christ as both Counselor and Healer.

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