



Eternal PERSPECTIVE Job

BIBLE TEXT | JOB 42:1-6

1 Then Job answered the Lord and said: **2** "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. **3** 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. **4** 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.' **5** I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; **6** therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

DEVOTIONAL FOR JOB 42:1-6

AUTHOR: MAURICIO MALDONADO

Job's humble response in these passages talks a lot about our walk with God. Here we have Job's confession and repentance for what he has said and done. He has seen what has been taken from him but still has the faith in God to say, "Hey, maybe I messed up in not fully acknowledging you."

Can you remember in your life when someone would say something along the lines of, "God's got it"? Yet I'm guilty and struggle sometimes because I can't quite figure out how "God's got it." These words, for those of us who are in a season of questioning, are something that maybe we need to pray from time to time. I can personally say that I'm in a season in which I'm patiently waiting to see what God will do in the life of one of my close family members.

Though at times I feel lost as to how to react or move, I know God is working. I can ultimately tell from this story of Job's life that this molding God is letting Job walk through is a reminder to us to keep the faith. I just have to wonder: If everything was stripped from me, how long would it be before I broke down? The questions that would arise about how unfair God is, or how unfair life is, would just be natural for us to ponder on. But I don't take this book as to show whether life is fair or not; it simply shows the power that God has. He can take away and restore at any time that which He pleases. He is the Alpha and the Omega, after all.

In the second verse, "I know that you can do all things" is such a great reminder of who God is. No matter what happens, God will prevail, God will not be stopped. In his pursuit of us, no one can come between God and His will for



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our lives. A lot of times in life we speak like we know this, but do our actions show it? We say we trust Him, but don't we find ourselves worrying throughout the day? So while we can see in the first verses that Job is coming to an understanding on who God is, the last verses shows who we are. At this point, Job had hit rock bottom, and the only thing he could think to do is not to keep yelling at God, "Why?", but instead he "repented in dust and ashes," He was to the point where he was not only sad about his circumstances, but sad that he had talked against God.

My hope is that maybe we can relate to how Job is taking all this in. I feel like Job was being led here to recognize who God is. At His will, everything moves or stops. It's never just life happening, but God stringing events together to help build the character of Job. Perhaps you are going through a rough patch in life that God will use to mold you. Though I'm not certain Job knew what would come next, I do like how he came to repent and know his place. I pray we strive as Christians to also find where our place is in God's grand plan.

Questions:

1. Is there anything that's keeping you from coming to God with a humble heart?
2. How much do you trust God when things get taken from you or don't go your way? Does that change your faith?
3. When things go downhill, is your first impulse to yell at God, or go to him in prayer for answers to your questions?