

“WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE”

Satilla Baptist Church
February 12, 2017 AM Service
Pastor William Pope
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References: Dr. Adrian Rogers, “How to Stand When You Don’t Understand”

I. THE SANCTUARY JOB ENJOYED

- a. His Perfect Character (1)**
 - i.** Job was a righteous man who served God with integrity and purity.
- b. His Perfect Family (2)**
 - i.** He had seven sons and three daughters. In the ancient world this would have been seen as a perfect family. Not too big but just right.
- c. His Prosperous Finances (3)**
 - i.** Job was the Sam Walton, Warren Buffett, and Bill Gates of his day. He was immensely successful.
- d. His Prominent Reputation**
 - i.** “Greatest of the People of the East”
- e. His Peaceful Home (4)**
 - i.** Job’s family possessed something that could not be purchased with money. They lived in harmony. His children would meet once a week and enjoy a meal with one another. He had a family that loved and enjoyed one another’s company.
- f. His Persistent Prayer (5)**
 - i.** Job interceded before God for his family “regularly”. Job was not slack in praying for his family. He offered up their names before God on a regular basis.

II. THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE JOB WAS UNWARE OF:

- a.** While Job was living his dream life unbeknown to him there was a spiritual war going on. Satan, the Great Accuser accuses Job before God of having a “because” love for God. Satan claims that Job only loves God because of the blessings and protection that God has given Job.

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*i. **Example:** Man who married a woman who had inherited a large sum of money. She was always reminding her husband that everything they had was because of her money. One day she was telling him, “Now Jim you know that the reason we live in this beautiful house is because of my money, and Jim you know that the reason that nice car is in our yard is because of my money, and Jim you know that the reason we have all this nice furniture here is because of my money, Now do you realize this Jim?” Her husband replied, “Yes Norma, I realize that and did you know that the reason I am here is because of your money?”*

b. Satan proposes that if God removes his protection and Job faces life without his family and finances that he will curse God to His Face.

III. THE STORM JOB FACED (Chapters 1 and 2)

i. He Loses His Fortune (1:13-17)

1. The equivalent of the Stock Market Crash of 1929 for Job. He loses it all at once

ii. He Loses His Family (1:18-19)

1. He loses all 10 children in one terrible accident

iii. He Loses His Health (2:7-8)

1. He is stricken with sores all over his body and is in terrible constant pain.

iv. He Loses His Reputation (2:11 and others)

1. His friends all believe that Job has committed some secret sin since they do not believe God would have allowed all of this evil to fall upon a righteous man.

b. Job Loses His Joy

i. **3:1-26**

c. Job Questions God’s Dealings

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i. 21:7-15

IV. THE SERMONS JOB ENDURED

a. Three Friends

- i.** Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar
- ii.** Started out okay. Sometimes you just need to sit and be quiet.
You don’t have the answers to it all

b. 8:1-7

c. 11:6

d. 11:13-20

e. Summary of their sermons:

- i.** God is Righteous
- ii.** God rewards, protects, and prospers His righteous servants and
God punishes the wicked.
- iii.** If you are suffering, then it is your fault.
- iv.** God will never allow bad things to happen to His people, if they
walk in Faith and righteousness.
- v.** Story of God not settling His accounts in October.

f. Job responds:

i. 12:1-4

ii. 13:1-5

iii. 16:1-5

V. THE SHELTER JOB FOUND

a. Job Found Shelter in Praising God

- i.** *Job 1:20-22 (NKJV) 20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and
shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. 21
And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And
naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has
taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD. ' 22 In all this
Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.*

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ii. Can you give your blessings back to God? Not your sins, but your blessings!

1. (Abraham and Issac)

iii. He Praised God by Faith. He did not feel like praising God but he Praised God not because of God’s Blessings, but he praised God simply because God is worthy of Praise.

iv. Song: “I Will Praise You in This Storm”

1. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHdcyue0bSw>

v. When we break through and Praise God not for His Blessings but simply because He is God we release a Power that Satan cannot destroy or overcome, because it is not based on the temporary blessings of this life or our fickle emotions but on the Eternal Nature of God Who is all Light and in Him is no darkness at all.

b. Job Found Shelter in Trusting God (Job 13:15)

i. *Job 13:15 (NKJV) 15 Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.....*

ii. Job trusted God even though perhaps his greatest trial was that he did not understand why he was facing this storm. He asked God why. It is not wrong to ask God why. Jesus did while on the cross.

iii. Example: Robert Frost said this, read it closely so you do not miss it:

1. *“But it was of the essence of the trial that you should not understand it at the time. It had to seem unmeaning to have meaning.”*

iv. Job never received his answer why. But God did answer God with these two responses:

1. The Sovereignty of God

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a. (Job 38-39)

b. Begins:

i. *Job 38:1-6 (NKJV) 1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:2 "Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? 3 Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me. 4 "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?6 To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,*

c. God replies with the response that “I am God and you are not”. “Where were you when I created the Universe?” In other words God is Sovereign and we cannot know why or how He works. His ways are higher than our ways. God is not to be understood but to be believed. It has been said that life is not a riddle to be solved but a mystery to be lived.

d. Life is not math. It is mystery.

2. The Sufficiency of God

a. Job 19:23-27

b. (Job 42:5) Job responds that he has heard of God but now he has seen God with his eyes. Job did not actually see God but what he meant was that he

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experienced God personally. In other words God Himself was enough, not God’s Blessings.

- c. We must seek the face of God not the hand of God if we want to be fulfilled and find shelter in the Storm. We seek His face through Praising Him and through Trusting Him.**

VI. CONCLUSION

a. Job was restored.

- i. Job 42:10 (NKJV) 10 And the LORD restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.**
- ii. Job 42:12-13 (NKJV) 12 Now the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. 13 He also had seven sons and three daughters.**

- b. All doubled except the children, but he did still have them, 10 in heaven and 10 on earth. You have not lost those who have left you.**

“The Lily of the Valley”

**I have found a friend in Jesus, He’s everything to me,
He’s the fairest of ten thousand to my soul;
The Lily of the Valley, in Him alone I see
All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.
In sorrow He’s my comfort, in trouble He’s my stay;
He tells me every care on Him to roll.**

Refrain

He’s the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star,

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He’s the fairest of ten thousand to my soul.

**He all my grief has taken, and all my sorrows borne;
In temptation He’s my strong and mighty tower;
I have all for Him forsaken, and all my idols torn
From my heart and now He keeps me by His power.
Though all the world forsake me, and Satan tempt me sore,
Through Jesus I shall safely reach the goal.**

Refrain

**He will never, never leave me, nor yet forsake me here,
While I live by faith and do His blessed will;
A wall of fire about me, I’ve nothing now to fear,
From His manna He my hungry soul shall fill.
Then sweeping up to glory to see His blessed face,
Where the rivers of delight shall ever roll.**

Refrain