

“Life’s Hardest Lesson: Hold Everything Loosely!”

Job 1:1-22

INTRODUCTION: Trusting God When You’re Troubled.

- Job teaches us how to trust God when life’s troubles and trials seem to be swallowing us whole.
- It is not only because Job suffered, that he is important to us. It is because he suffered in the same ways that we suffer—in the vital areas of family, personal health, and material things. Job is also important to us because he searchingly questioned and boldly protested his suffering. Indeed, he went to the top with his questions.
-Eugene Peterson
- Our sufferings often seem meaningless, yet there is a lesson for us all in Job’s life and the lives of all those who endure persecution, martyrdom, injury, cancer, multiple sclerosis, poverty, and countless other types of trials. The lesson is that testing purifies us and reveals the gold of proven, refined character within us.
-Ray Stedman

Notice 3 Things About God’s Response To Job’s Suffering:

1. I Want You To Notice That God _____
_____. (vv.1-5)
- Job was a man who lived in Uz. He was honest inside and out, a man of his word, who was totally devoted to God and hated evil with a passion.
(Job 1:1—The Message)
- Job persevered, even in his darkest moments. He kept going even when he paused to complain! Even when he was angry, he never lost sight of God. He held on to Him tenaciously, even when he was saying things that, later, he would regret.
(Derek Thomas)
- Integrity means that if our private life was suddenly exposed, we’d have no reason to be ashamed or embarrassed. Integrity means our outward life is consistent with our inner convictions.
(Billy Graham)

2. I Want You To Notice That God Allows Satan _____
_____. (vv.6-12)
 - Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and the Adversary also came among them.
(Job 1:6—Modern English Version)
 - This “day” that turns out to be so devastating for Job begins with a normal heavenly cabinet meeting. God summons His ministers rather as an American President might call the senior staff to an early-morning meeting in the Oval Office before sending them out for action.
(Christopher Ash)
 - Job’s integrity, wealth, and wisdom, were insufficient to cope with the mighty enemy. It was his reliance on the Lord that gave victory.
(J. Allen Blair)
3. I Want You to Notice That God’s Work Is Different _____
_____. (vv.13-22)
 - God Wants You To Respond Like Job:
 - * Look Up And Be Comforted By _____.
 - * Look Ahead And Be Reminded Of _____.
 - * Look Within And Be Shaped By _____.

CONCLUSION: Good News: Suffering Will Be Replaced With Everlasting Joy!

- I will consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
(Romans 8:18– New International Version)
- This is the way the true believer can look at suffering or any trial in this world: the believer knows that God will not fail, that somehow, some way, the Lord will provide, even as He did for Job.