

“When A Good Day Goes Bad”

~ INTRO ~

IT’S NO SECRET...

- That people have joked about the Book of *Job*... saying,
 - “*Don’t read that book unless you want to go thru suffering.*”
- The same way people say – don’t pray for more patience.

AS A PASTOR...

- I have the privilege of helping God’s people succeed in faith.

SO... I SEE THE BOOK OF *Job*...

- As an integral part of knowing God.

IDEA #1 – THE HISTORY OF JOB

1st – Who is *Job*?

- (Gen. 10:29) NKJV
 - The oldest son of Noah was Shem...
 - AND... in his line was born *Jobab* (*Job*).

2nd – How long did *Job* suffer?

- (Job 7:3) NKJV
 - Scholars estimate 6-months +/-
 - But definitely less than 1-year.

3rd – What’s the purpose of *Job*’s suffering?

- Learning to trust God when everything falls apart.

TWO TRUTHS FOR ALL CHRISTIANS:

- a) When God allows DELAY = He’s teaching me to SUBMIT to Him.
- b) When God allows SUFFERING = He’s teaching me to TRUST Him

IDEA #2 – THE SUFFERING OF JOB

AS WE PUT THE PIECES OF THIS BOOK TOGETHER...

- We see that there were waves of testing...
 - That came into *Job*’s life.

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WAVE #1

- Loss of finances (Job 1:13-17)
- Loss of family (Job 1:18-22)
- Loss of health (Job 2:1-10)

NOTICE TWO THINGS...

- (Job 1:12) NLT & (Job 2:6) NLT

➤ The tests in our lives are:

- 1) Approved by God
- 2) Limited by God

*Satan can't touch a believer without God's approval.

WAVE #2

- Loss of friends & family (Job 42:10-11)
- Loss of confidence in life (Job 3:1-26)
- Loss of hope in self – speechless (Job 40:4)

AS WE WATCH *Job* GO THRU THIS TESTING...

- We see how he got weary.
 - At first, he was shocked, but he worshipped (Job 1:20-22)
 - Next, he was brave, but broken (Job 2:9-10)
 - To his friends, he defended his integrity (Job 13:1-6)
 - In the end, *Job* was speechless before God (Job 40:4)

HERE'S THE LESSON FOR US ...

(Luke 22:31-32) NKJV

- *Sift* = (Sin-e-a-zo) = To try ones faith to the verge of collapse.

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW THIS?

- Because ***growth happens best in sifted soil.***

IDEA #3 – GOD'S PURPOSE FOR JOB

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NOW BEFORE WE CONCLUDE WITH *Job*...

- Notice what the scripture reveals:

1. Joseph (Gen. 50:20) NLT
2. The Psalmist (Ps. 73:16-26) NLT
3. All believers (James 5:7-8 & 10-11) NKJV

HERE’S THE POINT...

- The end of *Job*’s testing & suffering...
 - Was an unobstructed view of God (Job 42:5) NKJV
 - His faith had a NEW realness to it!

~ IN CLOSING ~

(John 3:16-17) NLT

JESUS DESIRES A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU TODAY.

- He wants to forgive all your sin...
- He wants all of your heart...
- He wants great things for your life.

IS THERE ANYONE HERE...

- That would like to accept God’s love this morning???