

James 5:11
Consider Job

Renowned patience ...

I. A Man of Faith

- A. To the Naked Eye
- B. Behind a Shroud of Mystery
- C. Beyond Comprehension
- D. A Type
- E. An Example

II. God's Perfect Will

- A. His Character
- B. His Purpose
- C. His Promises

III. Your Life's Design

- A., You Creator, Redeemer & Friend
- B. The Course of Your Journey
- C. An Unchanging Point of Reference

... that draws us nearer to God.

Children, Listen ...

1. What do you know about Job?
2. What do you know about God?
3. Did God love Job?
4. What are some trials that Job faced in life?
5. After all of his trials did Job come to know God better? Do you think it taught him to love God more?

Knowing Job

The story of Job depicts for us both the depths of human suffering and the height of God's compassionate grace toward His children. The challenge of Job is connecting the two. God's children are subject to the same afflictions in this life as the reprobate. Trials can be so terrible and extreme for some that they can almost pulverize us and threaten our earthly existence. James understands believers can experience what seems to be insurmountable burdens in life, and he wants them to be prepared. He urges them to consider Job. By His grace and through His love God brought Job through trials that are almost beyond human comprehension – He even allowed Satan to unleash his fury upon him. Yet in the end God's mysterious design, (after Job is brought to an end of himself), this beleaguered man found himself in a better place than he had ever been before. His knowledge of God was profoundly greater, His awe of Him was greatly magnified, his faith was stronger, and without question his love for the Lord was deeper. So, confident was he in God's compassion that he had the unshakable assurance that he would one day stand alive in the presence of his living Redeemer. Trouble will come as sure as sparks fly upward – but the saints of God, like Job, look upward finding help from the God who will never leave us or forsake us.

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 73:25-2