

**Subject: *Is God Enough?***

**Scripture: *Job 2:1-10***

The Book of Job deals with the problem of human suffering. Why do godly people suffer? Why do bad things happen to good people?

In chapter 1 we saw how Job had it all and then he lost it all. He had his family and his incredible wealth, but it lost everything he owned and his family all in one day. But even though Job lost everything, he didn't lose his character and his faith in God.

The Book of Job deals with some major topics: Satan, suffering, the sovereignty of God, and submission to God and His plan. The main truth in the Book of Job is that God is God. He does what He pleases, when He pleases, with whom He pleases, without asking anyone's permission, and He does so for His own glory and the ultimate good of His people. In this message we ask the question: Is God enough? When things don't go as you plan, when trouble comes your way, when you suffer and don't understand why, is God enough?

### **1. Is God enough when you are submerged in suffering?**

Now as chapter 2 begins it sounds like more of the same, like round two of a fight. The first word in chapter 2:1, "again" is the key to understanding what is about to happen. Job is about to go through round two of his suffering. Things went from bad to worse. He went from the frying pan into the fire.

A boxer was in the ring and his opponent was beating him up pretty bad. In between rounds his corner men tried to pump him up: "You're doing good. He can't hurt you. The boxer looked up from his swollen eyes and said, "You'd better keep an eye on that referee because somebody's killing me." Satan means "adversary" and Devil means "accuser." He lives up to his name. He is alive and active, restless and relentless. He is persistent and on the prowl.

- Satan's second appearance in Heaven – God questions Satan again not for His own information, but for our benefit. **1 Peter 5:8** *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*
- Satan's second accusation to God – Satan comes up with plan B. He says, "God you allowed me to take away Job's wealth, but now let me take away his health because that is his most valuable thing. Then he will curse you." Satan stays with his original charge—Job only loves you and serves you because you're so good to him. Take away his health and you'll find out that he doesn't trust you at all.
- Satan's second attack on Job – God allowed Satan to attack Job, but with limits. Satan is on a leash, but it's a long leash. God is in control, but He gives Satan permission to harm Job.
- The suffering in Job's body – Satan attacked his body with boils from his head to his feet. This may have been some form of leprosy. Job scraped his itching, oozing sores with a piece of broken pottery and sat down among the ashes, probably the city dump. Here was a man who lost it all. His wealth was gone, his children were gone, and now his health is gone. Later in the Book of Job we read about his awful suffering: loss of appetite, depression, worms in the boils,

difficulty in breathing, dark eyelids, foul breath, weight loss, constant pain, restlessness, blackened skin, fever, and all of these lasted for several months.

- The suggestion of Job's wife – Just when he needed someone to boost him, his wife came along and told him to curse God and die. She wants him to curse (blaspheme) God in hopes that God would strike him dead and put him out of his misery. Who does that sound like? Satan uses people as well as circumstances to do his dirty work. Job told his wife that she was like a foolish woman. That doesn't mean she was silly, but she was like a fool who didn't believe in God. *Psalms 14:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*

## **2. Is God enough when you are draped in darkness?**

Job suffered greatly and never knew why any of this ever happened. He didn't know he was the personal target of Satan.

- Job never knew about Satan's conversations with God.
- Job never knew why all this happened, even after it was over.

Sometimes we don't understand God's ways. His ways are higher than our ways. Don't doubt in the dark what God has shown you in the light. You know that God is good. Don't doubt His goodness in the dark. You know that God is faithful. Don't doubt His faithfulness in the dark. Don't let your circumstances affect your confidence in God.

Look at *Hebrews 11:32-40*. What about the "and others" crowd? The question is not, "Do you have enough faith to be delivered," but "Do you have enough faith not to be delivered?" The question is not, "Do you have enough faith to be healed," but "Do you have enough faith not to be healed?"

## **3. Is God enough when you are forsaken by friends?**

In verse 11, Job's three friends showed up to console and comfort him. At first it seems like their motives were good and they wanted to offer their help. They saw his pitiful condition and sat down in silence for seven days and seven nights. They didn't know what to say. But before long, they went from comfort to criticism. *Job 16:2 I have heard many such things: miserable comforters are ye all.* Instead of being there to sympathize, they began to analyze and criticize. Here's what they thought:

- All great sufferers are great sinners.
- Job is a great sufferer.
- Therefore Job is a great sinner.

They based their conclusions on what they knew from observations and from their theology of suffering. They didn't know that God had a purpose for Job's suffering and they didn't know about Satan's conversations with God.

Is God enough when you are submerged in suffering, when you are draped in darkness, and when you are forsaken by friends? Job said, "Yes, God is enough." What did Job accomplish by trusting God in his troubles? He shut the devil's mouth. He showed that his faith was real. He proved that when all is lost, GOD IS ENOUGH.