

Job Lesson 6: Disturbing Conclusions, Part 2

Job 1:21-2:6

- ✓ So, this is what Job gets for his passing the test of losing it all?
- ✓ Does this seem unfair to you?
- ✓ Well, it is!! Life is not fair, and we don't want it to be.

Review of our disturbing conclusions:

- 1) Life isn't fair, because if it were, all sinners would get what they deserve.
- 2) As a sinner, I'm not entitled to anything but Hell, so every day I wake up not in Hell is a good day.
- 3) I have no business complaining about the bad things, but I should be very grateful for the good things.
 - ✓ I'm a recipient of mercy and grace.
- 4) God doesn't owe me anything, not even an explanation.

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- 5) God's got the right to do whatever He wants.
 - ✓ God gives and He takes away, it's His stuff and He's got a right to do with it whatever He wants.
 - 6) Whenever and whatever God takes from us is just something that was going to be taken away eventually.
 - 7) When we do good, God doesn't owe us good stuff in return.
 - ✓ "But I've been good, Lord!," "SO?!" **Luke 17:10**
 - ✓ Being good doesn't erase the fact that you've been bad; never did, never will.
 - ✓ There is not statute of limitation on sin, sin is an eternal crime, this is why it takes the eternal God in the Person of His Son to take sin away.
 - ✓ An eternity in Hell will not pay for a single sin.
 - ✓ Do you think that God would send His Son to this place to die as He died, if there was some other way to accomplish this??
 - 8) When bad stuff happens, it may not have anything to do with our behavior.
 - ✓ What God does with Job in no way reflects His opinion of Job, Job was His favorite!

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- ☑ There may be a disconnect between our behavior and our experiences. There are numerous examples elsewhere in Scripture in addition to the Book of Job.
 - ☑ **John 9:1-3:** Jesus' disciples acted as though they are televangelists! This is common, rudimentary, human thinking.
 - ☑ They assumed that since something was not right, somebody must be doing something wrong.
 - ☑ There was another purpose for this man's blindness just like there can be another purpose for our own suffering.
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Why Do Bad Things Happen to God's Saints?

- ✓ Never forget that there aren't any good people, intrinsically good, but there are those who have been declared good by a gracious act of God, **these the Bible names as saints.**

There are several reasons for bad things to happen to God's Saints:

- ✓ **So that God can be glorified, "Hallowed be Thy Name"** i.e., make your name famous God; Glorify your name through my life, He taught us to pray that way.
 - ✓ This man's story has been written down for posterity in the inspired Word of God which will not pass away and here we are benefitting from it!
 - ✓ The number one reason why bad things happen to God's saints is for the same reason that trouble came into the life of the blind man. Trouble was allowed in his life for the purposes of God, that God might be displayed or glorified in and through his life.
 - ✓ In a larger sense, you could say that that is true for every trouble you and I have as saints.
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A Disturbing Conclusion: Why are there troubles? Why are there problems? Why are there issues?

So that God might be displayed in our lives.

- ✓ He could stop them, but He doesn't always; so, they are opportunities for God to be glorified in and through us.
 - ✓ This blind man is in Heaven now, in eternal bliss, right? Do you think he's still mad at God for his disability?
 - ✓ He probably wasn't very happy with God at some point in his earthly life because of his blindness, but do you think he still feels that way?
 - ✓ Do you think he's up there saying, "I know I'm in Heaven and everything, but I just haven't gotten over the fact that You let me be blind for 30 years of my life"?
 - ✓ Do you think it still matters to him in the same way now as it did then? Of course not! While on earth, he probably had the question "Why me, God?," as any of us would.
 - ✓ Is he still asking that question?
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Disturbing conclusion: He was going to lose his eyesight anyway...going to lose his life anyway...but for the time he had it, it was used to glorify God.

- ✓ You and I have short lives, 100% of us are going to lose 100% of what we currently have just as this man did.
 - ✓ This man is now dead, and when he died, he lost everything he had on earth; he has now been dead for a very long time.
 - ✓ God took this man's temporary situation on earth and used it for an eternal weight of glory.
 - ✓ This man's story is repeated for all posterity through the inspired text of Scripture. Is that such a bad thing?
 - ✓ This man lost his eyesight, what he was going to lose either way someday, but, in exchange, he got glory for God for eternity through that comparatively short season of his life.
 - ✓ **Not a bad trade off.**
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- ✓ What would you choose? Would you rather say, "I want to be happy and feel warm and good every day of my short life"?
 - ✓ Or would you prefer to feel happy and warm and good for the rest of eternity because you used your short life to glorify God?
 - ✓ You may think that there will be no regrets when we stand before Jesus, but that is not what the Bible teaches: **1st John 2:28**.
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- ✓ Understand that when there is trouble in our lives, we can be sure of some things, and the number one thing is that God will display His work, **He will be glorified in us, His saints**.
 - ✓ God will be glorified as people see what happens to a saint as he or she goes through trouble.
 - ✓ We're going to lose it all anyway, our lives and every part of it, our sight, hearing, hands, feet, health, wealth, abilities, family, friends, all of it will be gone eventually.
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- ✓ Why not take this small window of opportunity called our life and let God be glorified in it?
 - ✓ Think with me; through the comings and goings of any of these things that we **will eventually lose**, we can gain glory for God.
 - ✓ Someday, when we sit in Heaven, we will be able to say with the man born blind, "Man, I'm so glad You did that God!"
 - ✓ I can guarantee you that the man born blind is not bothered at all by the fact that he lost his sight for 30 years so that he could glorify God for an eternity.
 - ✓ Do you think Job is mad at God right now for how all this shook out??
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Another disturbing conclusion: When bad things happen, it impugns the reputation of God temporarily, people say, "how could God allow such a thing."

Another disturbing conclusion: God is not deeply affected by how we feel about any particular thing that He does!

- ✓ Part of His thought process when He does something does not include: "I wonder what they'll think about Me if I do this?"
 - ✓ God is willing to risk temporarily being misunderstood in exchange for permanent glory in and through our lives.
 - ✓ He's willing to risk the temporary negative conclusions of making an example of us for the sake of the positive and permanent conclusions in eternity.
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Another disturbing conclusion: Do you know what happens to Job? God makes an example out of him (as with the man born blind, as with us...is that OK?)

- ✓ "God would never do that!" Please, where are you getting your theology from?! He is Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient, Absolute Sovereign, but you think He limits Himself for fear of you misunderstanding Him?
 - ✓ So that God can be glorified? If that's OK with you
 - ✓ *I feel that God can be better glorified in blessing me than in allowing trouble in my life, how about you??...He doesn't always agree.*
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