

**BLAMING GOD**  
**JOB 1:20-21**

# **SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED IN 2020!**

- **On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced the Coronavirus as a Pandemic (versus an epidemic)**
- **Two days later, on March 13, 2020, the United States announced the COVID-19 Pandemic to be a National Emergency**
- **Within hours State School Systems closed, Businesses began to close as a result, and grocery stores emptied**

# OBSERVATIONS

- **As of this date, 50 million people across the United States have filed for unemployment insurance**
- **One study projects up to 500,000 deaths by February 2021, but 130,000 lives could be saved if masks are worn**
- **For Christians the pandemic not only threatens our health but also tests our faith**

# **BUT OUR GOD HAS NOT CHANGED BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC!**

- If God took care of us before the Pandemic, know that He has not changed
- Although everything seems to be changing or “fluid,” God is not fluid
- He is the same faithful God He was before this outbreak and will be the same faithful God once it passes; Hebrews 13:8 Christ is the same!
- Our faith therefore can be steady and sure because God is faithful, unchanging, steady, and sure
- We have to be careful about charging/blaming God foolishly, by continuing instantly in prayer, and living righteously Philippians 4:6-8; Proverbs 3:5-6

# **JOB IS A PERSON TO WHOM WE CAN LOOK AS AN EXAMPLE IN TIMES LIKE THESE!**

- **God allowed Job, who was the richest man in the east, to lose just about everything (ex. fires in the western U.S.)**
- **He lost his children, his possessions, his physical health—but through it all he patiently endured and remained true to his God**
- **Surely, he couldn't help but wonder, “*what in the world is going on?*” “*Is God faithful or not?*”**

# THE POINT!

- To understand what's going on, we actually have to look outside of this world in our thoughts. This world, alone, can't answer the great questions of life
- Some answers are found only in Heaven. Job, chapters 38 and 39, are literal chapters of questions that God asked the afflicted, complaining Job; but he had no answer
  - The origin of the earth, where were you?
  - Where is light stored when it's not on?
  - Can you give orders to lightning when to report for duty?

# **JOB ACCEPTED HIS SUFFERING!**

*“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.” In all this, Job did not sin by charging (blaming) God. Job 1:21-22*

- Under the strain of pain and discomforts life may bring, we may be tempted to question God’s wisdom and goodness, and possibly His love
- Sometimes we can actually allow our demise or our loved one’s distress to overtake our hearts and tempt us to think that, *“God doesn’t care about me or who I care about.”*
- Job’s wife and friends were of no help. Wife- *“Curse God and die.”* Friends- *“Confess what wrong you’ve done.”*

# **EVERYONE LISTENING TODAY WILL EXPERIENCE A BITTER CALAMITY, EVEN AS SAFELY AS YOU TRY TO LIVE**

- Someone runs through a traffic light and T-Bones your automobile
- You may be shaving and singing a hymn, and feel a lump on your neck, or showering and feel a nodule under your arm or in your breast
- You may receive a phone call that makes you drop to the chair with tears and anguish
- You may acquire COVID 19, even as cautious as you try to be
- The reason that we have Job's narrative is so that we can have help living through calamities while trusting God



# THE APOSTLE JAMES RECEIVED COMFORT FROM JOB'S STORY

*“Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job’s perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.” James 5:10-11*

Job never blamed God

His religion was real; James 1:27

His faith was firm; Hebrews 11:6

# **JOB NEVER CHARGED/BLAMED GOD FOR HIS TRIALS, JOB 1:21**

- Blaming goes beyond the sovereignty of God
- Blaming implies that God messed up, that our sorrow is God's fault
- When we blame God, we declare ourselves as righteous enough to put God in our court of righteousness. But can we do that?
- We are His creation, not God our creation
- Can the created blame the Creator?
- Can the clay blame the Potter?
- Since when do I have a right to pass judgement on the almighty God?

# **JOB'S STORY IS RECORDED TO HELP US LIVE THROUGH CALAMITY AND KEEP TRUSTING GOD**

- **We are introduced to Job in chapter one as a man who was blameless and upright, a man who feared God and turned away from evil**
- **You see, if suffering is intended to be a punishment for evil, Job is not an ideal candidate**
- **He normally pursues right and runs from wrong**
- **His complete reverence for God governs all that he does. He sought God's sovereignty in every aspect of his life**

# **GOD HAD BLESSED JOB BECAUSE OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS**

- **God had blessed him with 10 children, huge numbers of livestock and servants**

**But please don't think that God "owes us because we have been so good" (go to church, Sunday school, involved in ministries, give more than 10% of our income, keep up with our sick members)**

**We are not saved to be exempt from heartache**

**We don't worship so that we will have no worries**

**We do not sing and praise God so that we will have no sorrow (not a quid pro quo kind of Christian life)**

***"For He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth the rain on the just and on the unjust."***

***Matthew 5:45***

# **TO AVOID BLAMING GOD, WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR HEARTACHES AND DISAPPOINTMENT**

## **SIN!**

- Sin is at the root of every evil act
- Remember, the body was not designed by God to live in a sinful world, but created perfectly to dwell in a perfect world
- But the sin of Adam brought devastation and disaster to God's perfect world

*“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.” Romans 5:12*

# **JESUS' DEATH GIVES ALL OF US A SECOND CHANCE WITH OUR LIVES!**

*For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But, each in turn (we have to wait our turn): Christ, the firstfruits; then when He comes, those who belong to Him. 1 Corinthians 15:22-23*

*Jesus' death pays a bill to God for a debt that we could not pay!*

# **THE PLAN OF SALVATION**

<b>Hear the Gospel</b>	<b>Acts 15:7</b>
<b>Believe the Gospel</b>	<b>Acts 15:7</b>
<b>Repent of Sins</b>	<b>Acts 17:30</b>
<b>Confess Christ</b>	<b>Acts 8:37</b>
<b>Be Baptized</b>	<b>Acts 8:38</b>