

## God's Principles of Restoration

### Introduction

- The Book of Job is a very important philosophical treatise on how to interpret and process pain and tragedy when it hits.
- Although there are some who teach this book is not relevant to the New Testament since the cross of Christ, the Book of James quotes Job as an example for us to follow **(James 5:11)** -- *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.*
- While tragedy strikes many people, very few ever see everything they lost doubly restored!
- This book shows that in spite of God bragging about Job's righteousness and obedience to Him, Job wasn't exempt from trouble.

### 12 Principles behind God's Restoration in the life of Job

#### 1. Job fell to the ground in worship after news of tragedy

- **Job 1:20** *At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship*
- The Bible tells us to give thanks to God "in" everything, not "for" everything. God is not the author of sin and tragedy but sometimes allows the enemy to attack us.

#### 2. Job didn't accuse God of any wrong doing

- **Job 1:22** *In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.*
- Satan successfully tempted Eve to sin by accusing God's motives (Genesis 3:1-6).

### 3. Job maintained his integrity in spite of satanic attacks against his family and property

- **Job 2:3** Then the Lord said to Satan, ‘Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason.’
- Oftentimes, many Christians fall away from God when tragedy or trials strike because their faith is superficial and not interwoven into the very fabric of their being.

### 4. Job didn’t allow the back-slidden state of his family to bring him down during his time of trial

- **Job 2:9-10** His wife said to him, ‘Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!’ He replied, ‘You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?’
- Many allow those weaker in the faith to bring them down to their level of emotional and spiritual lack during times of testing.

### 5. Job didn’t allow sinful talk to come out of his mouth

- **Job 2:10** In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.
- During times of testing we must be very careful what we allow to come out of our mouths because our words can control the direction of our hearts and minds
- **James 3:6** -- The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

## **6. Job's commitment to God transcended his physical life and the things of this world**

- **Job 13:15** Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.
- Like Paul, he lived the crucified life (**Galatians 2:20**) -- I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- Many, like those spoken about in the parable of the sower and the seed (Mark 4), backslide because of the cares of this world, desires of this world and the lust for money and material things.

## **7. Job maintained his faith and ultimate hope in God to redeem and resurrect him on the last day**

- **Job 19:25-27** I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes – I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!
- In spite of his emotional pain, his belief in the basic tenets of the faith remained unshaken.

## **8. Job didn't allow the negative words of his friends to confuse and condemn him**

- **Job 16:2-5** I have heard many things like these; you are miserable comforters, all of you! Will your long-winded speeches never end? What ails you that you keep on arguing? I also could speak like you, if you were in my place; I could make fine speeches against you and shake my head at you. But my mouth would encourage you; comfort from my lips would bring you relief.

## 9. Job heard the voice of the Lord “out of the storm”

- **Job 38:1** Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm.
- The storms in life are God’s way of showing us who we really are and what our true goals should be.
- The storms in life provide a great opportunity to refocus your life and mission.
- The storms in life are a great opportunity to allow God to speak to us.

## 10. Job stood up like a man

- **Job 40:7** ‘Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.
- Even when tragedy strikes, men are called to continue to function in their role as leaders of their families and communities.

## 11. Job submitted himself to the wisdom of God’s sovereignty

- **Job 42:2** ‘I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
- Although God promises divine health, wealth, and an abundant life (John 10:10) there are times when things contrary to this happen and we must trust in God’s ultimate wisdom for allowing it.
- In many instances, God allows certain things because of hidden sins, unbelief in His power, and numerous other issues that allow an open door to the enemy in our lives and families.

## 12. Job didn’t hold resentment against disloyal people around him and even prayed for them

- **Job 42:10** After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.