

104.13. WHY ME LORD. JOB'S CHOICES.

Job (Jobe, like globe) is believed to be the oldest & 1st written book of the Hebrew bible. Job was a wealthy man, he was blameless, upright, constantly mindful & lived in a righteous manner, Job 1:1. God brags to Satan about Job's virtue, but Satan says that Job is only righteous, as God has blessed him with so much. Satan says that, if given the approval to inflict suffering, that Job will change & curse God. God allowed satan to come after Job, to prove Job's faithfulness, but forbade satan to take his life.

One day, Job was given 4 reports; that his sheep, servants & ten children had all died. Job rips his clothes & shaves his head in sorrow, yet still praises God in prayer, Job 1:13-20.

Satan arrives in heaven & God allows him another opportunity to test Job. This time, Job is distressed with terrible skin sores. His wife urges him to denounce God & to give up & die, but Job protests, enduring his inflictions, Job 2:7. Three of Job's friends come to comfort him, sitting with him in silence for 7 days before starting a discussion sharing their thoughts on the causes of Job's troubles, 2:11-13.

In Job ch.3, Job damn's the day he was born, relating life & death to light & darkness. He hopes that his birth had been obscured in darkness & desires to have never been born, believing that life only increases his suffering. In Ch.4 his friends chime in; Eliphaz says that Job, who has comforted others, now shows that he never really knew their pain. He concludes that Job's pain must be due to sin & tells Job to seek God's favor. Bildad & Zophar agree that Job must have done evil to provoke God's justice & argue that he should try more Godly behavior. Bildad supposes that Job's children brought their deaths on themselves &

Zophar even says that whatever wrongdoing Job has done, he likely deserves more suffering, than what he has experienced. Job reacts to each of these remarks so angrily that he calls his friends worthless physicians, who whitewash their help with lies, Job 13:4.

In Ch. 9 Job questions why God judges' people by their deeds, if He can just as easily change, or forgive their behavior. It is confusing to Job how a human can satisfy God's justice, as humans cannot possibly convince God of anything with words, as God cannot be fooled & Job says that he can't defend himself as he does not know himself why this is happening. Job even desires for someone who can mediate between him & God, maybe from Sheol, the dark space of the dead. Job knows his Redeemer is in heaven & will testify as to his integrity, 19:25, but the suffering is bad & he turns bitter, anxious, & scared. He deplores the injustice of God, letting evil people thrive, while he & many other honest people suffer,

ch. 10. Job wants to face God & protest, but cannot physically find Him,

ch. 23. He assumes that wisdom is concealed from humans, but he decides to persevere in seeking wisdom by fearing God & evading evil, Ch. 12.

God eventually intervenes, commanding Job to be brave & explains various detailed features of his creation. Overcome by the appearance of God, Job recognizes God's infinite power & accepts the constraints of his human understanding, ch. 42. This response pleases God, but he is upset with Job's friends for giving such bad advice 42:7. Job reconciles on their behalf & God forgives them.

God then restores Job's health, granting him a double portion, or twice as much wealth as he had before, new children & a remarkably long life 42:10. In the end, Job never completely gave up hope, or faith in God & should be an inspiration to everyone enduring suffering of their own.

PERSPECTIVE.

I believe we all have probably, at one time or another, said; I don't know, or understand why God would allow this, or that to happen, when in fact it may not be our business to know it all, but we can know & deal with more & be comforted, if we will take the time to truly understand who we are & what we have done & who God truly is & what He has done?

First off God does not owe us an explanation for anything, as He is the creator of everything & everything belongs to Him; This is His creation & His rules, which we have all broken & have all been warned of the consequences of sin & disobedience, so we truly have no rightful expectation of protection from anything, or of anything good & yet He still offers us just that, even in our evil disobedience.

God is looking for a family to spend eternity with & we each have a chance of being part of that & not through being good, or not sinning, but through repentance; turning from sin & turning towards & trusting in God, by believing in & accepting the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to cover our sins.

God originally created creation to be sin free, disease free, hate free, murder free, in other words to live in perfect harmony, as one great big loving family, worshipping one great big loving Father, but one of the

angels got greedy & had a different plan & brought evil into this now fallen world, but God is a winner & will have His perfect family & planet, but suffering had entered the world & now must be rode out & dealt with, before this perfect paradise comes back.

God does not ruin our days, or our world, if anything we ruined His & He could have forced a lot of unbreakable rules & boundaries on us, to force obedience & end up with a people that loved Him, because they had to, or because of what He could do & who didn't love Him because of who He truly is, which is love. God is a loving Father who wants a people who love Him, because He loved them & to find out who that people would consist of, He had to give us free will, to do as we see fit for our lives, without His direct interference, unless we accept Him, as our Lord & cry out to Him for it.

God doesn't cause bad & doesn't just allow bad to happen, He allows everything that happens, to happen & He does weep & does step in to comfort us, when bad things happen, as He loves all His children & like any father, does not want to see bad things happen to them, or us, but He must allow us to do our own thing & to deal with the consequences of such, just not alone, as He will step in & turn bad around, to somehow, somewhere, at some time, to be used for His good. Even when we do not see it, He is always working, as He will always love us, but we must remember that satan is the king of this old dying earth & as such bad things are going to happen, in part due to each of our sinfulness & disobedience, but we still Have a loving Father who once the approaching end times disappear, will carry us into His perfect new Heaven & earth, where we will spend eternity the way it was originally

planned; With a loving, caring family & with no more pain, or heartaches,
forever on a new peaceful loving earth..