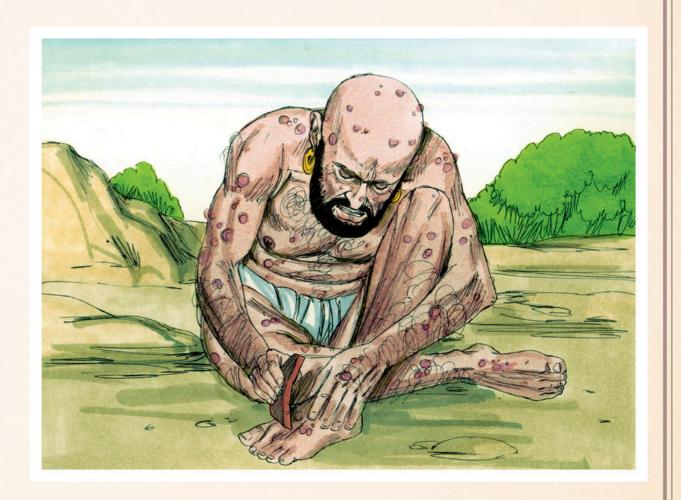


JOB

A Life Turned Upside Down

Bad things happen to good people

Many have the idea that as long as they are faithful, bad things won't happen to them – not so.



Bad things happen to good people

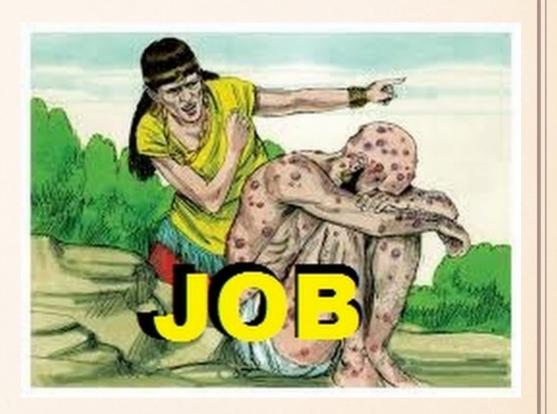
- Consider Job
 - Free from sexual sins (Job 31:1; 9-12)
 - Innocent of abusing his power (Job. 31:13-15)
 - Helped the poor (Job 31:16-23)
 - Innocent of trusting in his wealth (Job. 31:24-28)
 - He even cared for his enemies (Job 31:29-34)
- Yet, Job suffered.

- Prosperity is precarious (Job 1:13-19)
 - Job's answer to his lost wealth
 - - ◆20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.
 - *21 And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord."
 - *22 In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

Spouses don't always support the troubled.

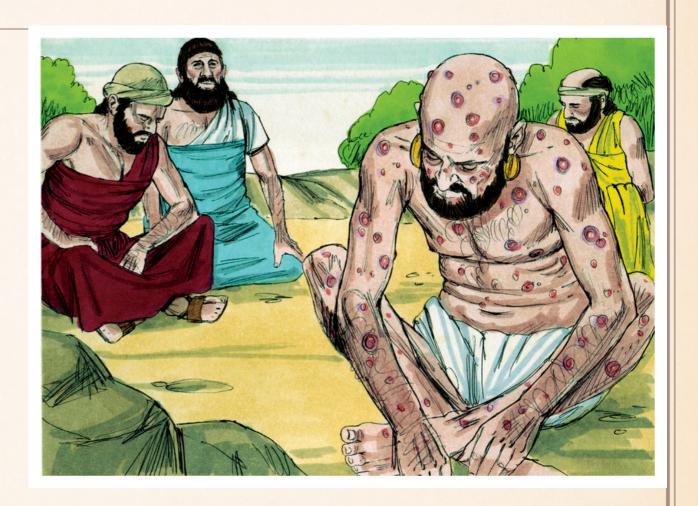
- "Job's wife told him to curse God and die" (Job 2:9)
 - Job's answer:
 - ◆ 10 But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. (Job 2:10)

 (NKJV)



Friends can fail us.

- His friends charged him with sin.
- He said that they were miserable comforters.(Job 16:2)





- Problems can be depressing.
 - - *26 But when I looked for good, evil came to me; And when I waited for light, then came darkness.
 - *27 My heart is in turmoil and cannot rest; Days of affliction confront me.
 - *28 I go about mourning, but not in the sun; I stand up in the assembly and cry out for help.

PROBLEMS CAN BE DEPRESSING



What can we do?

Don't

- Worry worry doesn't work!
- Watch the news all day long!
- *Take your frustrations out on others!

PROBLEMS CAN BE DEPRESSING



What can we do?

- Study and pray!
- Watch and listen to church services from all around the country.
 - Jordan Park where our son, Jeff preaches
 - Lindale where Chris Emerson preaches
- Take trips via YouTube; Stevens on PBS.
- Take a drive in the country.

BUT REMEMBER THAT:

- We don't always understand the workings of God.
 - ♦ Job did well in his early affliction, but as time wore on, he began to think that God had forgotten him and challenged Him. (Job 31:35-40)

WE DON'T ALWAYS UNDERSTAND THE WORKINGS OF GOD

- God answers him with a series of questions:
 - * "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding." (Job 38:4)
 - * "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, And caused the dawn to know its place." (Job 38:12)

BUT REMEMBER THAT:

- He allows us to be tested but for our benefit
 - Trials come
 - At the hand of Satan (Job 1&2)
 - God chastises (Heb. 12:4-11)
 - Because we are human (Gen. 3:14-19)

BUT WHY THESE TRIALS?

- We don't know but we do know that they have a purpose.
 - James 5:11 (NKJV)
 - * "Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful."

CONCLUSION:

God didn't forsake Job and He won't forsake us, either!

Romans 8:35-39 (NKJV)

- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or peril, or sword?
- ³⁶ As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."
- ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.
- ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
- ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.