

03042024 Final Ready. Holding on to a Godly Perspective in order for Faith which is trust in God to persevere in all circumstances absolutely requires the right perspective... so **What is perspective? a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something; it is a point of view.** The way we view a situation....

**There is a verse in the book of Job...that if you tenaciously hold on to it will put everything in your life in correct perspective....it takes place when God speaking to Job when job has questioned the integrity of God concerning his plan and reason for allowing Job to go through all the troubles he had. after many chapters God responds...**

*NLT Job 38: 4 “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand.*

**In one verse God give Corrects Job’s perspective on his life in comparison to God’s perspective on life.... where were you a mere human when I created the earth? the answer is no where as not yet created...**

**So you have very little insight of that which you speak Job... learn the lesson Job learned...you have only been in existence a short number of years....you cannot possible grasp all that God has designed, controlled and accomplished....way before you and I came into existence...and his plan extends far beyond your lifetime here and into eternity....done, way before you were alive...**

**Lets take a birds eye view...which appear as lowlights in Job’s life to help adjust our perspective on our lives through a fly by of the life of Job...which by the way is considered the first book rwriltne in the Bible...**

**eternity....done, way before you were alive...**

Lets do a little back story on this guy Job

1. Job, is a totally stand-up guy. The first verse (Job 1:1) describes him from God's perspective

*NLT Job 1:1 There once was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless—a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.*

**Just know that Job is a good man. Who loved God and God him**

*NLT 1:2 He had seven sons and three daughters. 3 ....He was, in fact, the richest person in that entire area. Married with children and very wealthy*

God called a meeting in heaven and Satan was there....

*NLT 1:8 Then the LORD asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil."*

- **Well, Satan responds**, *NLT 1:9 Satan replied to the LORD, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. 10 You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is 11 But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!"*

- **And God is like, "Nah, Job is a faithful man."**

*12 "All right, you may test him," the LORD said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the LORD's presence. So Satan thinks he is wiser than God...Game on! going. Satan, in a very short time, destroyed all of Job's possessions, his children died and marriage went down the tubes...*

- **God gives Satan the rules.. he can afflict Job in any way he chooses, only he must not touch Job himself.**

- **Now it is on and cracking....the Stuff Job goes though: Physically- Job loses vast amounts of wealth and all of his children -- all in single day.**

*NLT Job1:13 One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting at the oldest brother's house, <sup>14</sup> a messenger arrived at Job's home with this news: "Your oxen were plowing, with the donkeys feeding beside them, <sup>15</sup> when the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." <sup>16</sup> While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."*

*<sup>17</sup> While he was still speaking, a third messenger arrived with this news: "Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you." <sup>18</sup> While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: "Your sons and daughters were feasting in their oldest brother's home. <sup>19</sup> Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in from the wilderness and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you."*

- **Upon hearing this most devastating news, Job tore his robe and shaved his head in mourning.**
- **But he didn't lose his [faith](#) and worshiped the Lord saying:**

*NLT 1: <sup>20</sup> Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship. <sup>21</sup> He said, <sup>21</sup> He said, "I came naked from my mother's womb, and I will be naked when I leave. The LORD gave me what I had, and the LORD has taken it away. Praise the name of the LORD!" <sup>22</sup> In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.*

- **First off Job, under all his losses, tears his robe...robes were beautiful and expensive one piece outer garments without sleeves; reaching down to the ankles; made with the finest cloth held at the waist by a beautiful belt, worn by men of birth, rank, great wealth and by kings. He tore it...it means nothing now...**

- Then shaved his head...the sign of deepest grief in his culture...he can't pull out his broken heart, cut off an arm...so shaves his head...no longer whole.....
- And falls to the ground...a noble wealthy man...never falls to the ground...yet his legs fail him...and he cries out to God.... Faith is only faith when you have nothing else to hold on too....He knew where to go in his great losses
- He is reduced to his first state. He born naked with nothing...and will leave with nothing....everything he receives in between will be left... except the lives ....and his children left way before he desired.... way sooner than he expected.

He recognized God is in control he knows there is a plan.....he recognized His sovereignty...he has the right to give and take back... He recognized God is the shot caller...He recognized it is not over...

<sup>22</sup> *In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.*

- His statement has become a classic expression of the Christian's faith in God's noble and good character no matter the situation
- **But that is not the end of his troubles**.... Job himself is struck with a terrible disease which left him with awful boils all over his body. Job is brought from the most outstanding leader of his community, to sit on an ash heap at the city dump. There he is alienated from his friends and family, while unfeeling neighbors taunt him with cruel songs. And even those who had come to console him now turn on him.
- And all except one have the wrong perspective on what happened and why this happened...summed up in this statement
- Job's three friends, [Eliphaz](#), [Bildad](#), and [Zophar](#), have historically been known for offering lengthy speeches that resulted in their being condemned by God ([Job 42:7-9](#)).

- At one point **Job**, weary of their unhelpful rhetoric, told them:

*Job 16:2 “I have heard all this before. What miserable comforters you are! <sup>3</sup> Won’t you ever stop blowing hot air? What makes you keep on talking? <sup>4</sup> I could say the same things if you were in my place. I could spout off criticism and shake my head at you. <sup>5</sup> But if it were me, I would encourage you. I would try to take away your grief.*

- Human reasoning is inadequate. Job, his wife and his friend’s didn’t understand why any of this was happening. Sometimes we try to reason why things are happening.

**Spiritually speaking... perspective wise – Job reasons: God is against him and been separated from Job. So God remains hauntingly silent through the entire affair. But he keeps trying to figure out why this happened... begging God to explain**

*NLT Job 16:7 “O God, you have ground me down and devastated my family. <sup>8</sup> As if to prove I have sinned, you’ve reduced me to skin and bones.*

*NLT Job 30:15 I live in terror now. My honor has blown away in the wind, and my prosperity has vanished like a cloud. <sup>16</sup> “And now my life seeps away. Depression haunts my days. <sup>17</sup> At night my bones are filled with pain, which gnaws at me relentlessly. <sup>18</sup> With a strong hand, God grabs my shirt. He grips me by the collar of my coat. <sup>19</sup> He has thrown me into the mud. I’m nothing more than dust and ashes. <sup>20</sup> “I cry to you, O God, but you don’t answer. I stand before you, but you don’t even look. <sup>21</sup> You have become cruel toward me. You use your power to persecute me and destroy me in the storm. <sup>23</sup> And I know you are sending me to my death—*

1. However Job was not suffering because he had sinned. He was suffering because he had **not** sinned! Job was suffering for God's honor and his close relationship with God!! and in order to shame the Satan.

**2. Suffering is not always a punishment. Sometimes pain is a complement of your strength that God uses to grow your faith.**

**Remember Satan said to God about Job....** *NLT 1:9 Satan replied to the LORD, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. <sup>10</sup> You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is **11** But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!"*

**His belief in God and his closeness too him is revealed in this position of his will toward God...which Satan had all wrong...**

*NIV Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face. <sup>16</sup> Indeed, this will turn out for my deliverance, for no godless person would dare come before him!*

- 1. Faith is being able to trust our relationship with God when you have no idea what the hell is going on (literally).** we should tell God when we are frustrated with God himself.
- 2. It does not honor to God to trust Him only when we understand fully what He is doing. That is not faith at all.**
- 3. However Job was not suffering because he had sinned. He was suffering because he had not sinned! Job was suffering for God's honor and his close relationship with God!! and in order to shame the Satan.**
- 4. Suffering is not always a punishment. Sometimes pain is a complement of your strength that God uses to grow your faith.**

**But Job knew something else that kept his perspective right..**

**He wanted to know "Why would God let this happen to him... to his children?" **The struggle to find the answer to 'Why' has shipwrecked the faith of many.** The objection that many have to belief in God is simply stated, "If God is good, ... why does he allow bad things to happen.... There is no simple answer to our question 'why', no answer will provide cover for the pain and grief of loss. or some explanation that makes complete sense... so it is all good now.. Nothing that God could say in answer to that question**

would help us make complete sense of the swirling confusion and emotional turbulence. The answers aren't that easy.

But as the book of Job draws to a close, God directs Job to another line of questions ... not 'why', but 'who'. Asking 'who' will resurrect the prospects of hope because no matter how great our loss, or how deep our grief ....

**God is in charge and has made promises that things will be made right**

This tragedy is bigger than us but it's not bigger than God. I can give Him my disappointment, my hurt, my anger my emptiness? I will give Him my questions? for those feelings just left in my hands, is not good for me. But In His hands, I have trust...even when there is no understanding... this is my hope...the same as Job's....In chapter 19, Job, right in the midst of his pain, made a profound statement of faith and hope and truth....

*Job 19: <sup>25</sup> "But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last. <sup>26</sup> And after my body has died, yet in my body I will see God! <sup>27</sup> I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought!*

For I know that my Redeemer lives ... I know the one who holds eternity in his hands ... I know the one whom my eyes yearn to see ... I know the one who will heal all my heart wounds. Yet, it is in that verse that we also get a glimpse of our final lesson from God on dealing with death. **The Resurrection is real.... This perspective he held on to at all cost...God was his and belonged to God!!**

Job goes on for 37 chapters to complain while his friends chide him for brining it on himself...**And God finally answers ....They have a relationship alright...God rebukes him for thinking he knows when he know little...**

**38** Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind: <sup>2</sup> "Who is this that questions my wisdom

with such ignorant words? <sup>3</sup> Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you,

and you must answer them. <sup>4</sup> “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much. <sup>5</sup> Who determined its dimensions and stretched out the surveying line?

- at least 10 dimensions in the universe ....first four dimensions...Height width depth and time...
- According to Superstring Theory, the fifth and sixth dimensions are where the notion of possible worlds arises outside our four dimensions...ie heavens...or worlds different than ours... which would give us a means of measuring the similarity and differences between our world and other possible ones.
- In the **sixth**, we would see all possible worlds, where we could compare and position all the possible universes that start with the same initial conditions as this one (i.e. God spoke into existence).
- In the **seventh dimension**, you have access to the possible worlds that start with different initial conditions.
- The **eighth dimension** again gives us a plane of such possible universe histories, each of which begins with different initial conditions and branches out infinitely (hence why they are called infinities).
- In the **ninth dimension**, we can compare all the possible universe histories, starting with all the different possible laws of physics and initial conditions. In the **tenth and final dimension**, we arrive at the point in which everything possible and imaginable is covered. Beyond this, nothing can be imagined by us lowly mortals, which makes it the natural limitation of what we can conceive in terms of dimensions.
- the rest of chapter 38-39 God continues to ask more about creation... do you know any of that?

*40 Then the LORD said to Job, <sup>2</sup> “Do you still want to argue with the Almighty? You are God’s critic, but do you have the answers?” <sup>3</sup> Then Job replied to the LORD, <sup>4</sup> “I am nothing—how could I ever find the answers? I will cover my mouth with my hand. <sup>5</sup> I have said too much already. I have nothing more to say.”*



## The worst part Job is you questioned my integrity... as he confronts him...

<sup>7</sup> “Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you, and you must answer them. <sup>8</sup> “Will you discredit my justice and condemn me just to prove you are right? <sup>9</sup> Are you as strong as God?...

- You have disrespected my power, and my wisdom...Do you also disrespect my being Just? And you lift up your righteousness thinking your righteousness is more correct than mine? Can you dare think you are as strong as me? I am stronger than anything and anyone one...the rest of the two chapters 40-41 expound on what Job does not know about these things...

*Job responds ...*<sup>42</sup> Then Job replied to the LORD: <sup>2</sup> “I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. <sup>3</sup> You asked, ‘Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?’ It is I—and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me.

**After the spanking after repentance...comes the blessing...** <sup>12</sup> So the LORD blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning. For now he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 teams of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys. <sup>13</sup> He also gave Job seven *more* sons and three more daughters.

<sup>16</sup> Job lived 140 years after that, living to see four generations of his children and grandchildren. <sup>17</sup> Then he died, an old man who had lived a long, full life.

**We don't know how long he suffered but it must have seemed like an eternity to Job**

Satan is humiliated and lost again...God was right about Job! and he is right about you! ...we win...he lost none of his family...his suffering had purpose....and so does yours...his blessings hve purpose and so do yours...

godly perspective is everything we need to complete the mission God has for us!! and through us ...be Ready