Pastor’s Notes

May, 2024

I’m sure most people have read the book of Job. Here we have an innocent man that caught Satan’s attention. Satan was asked by God, “have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is a blameless and upright man who fears God and shuns evil.” God was saying that Job was a man of integrity.

Satan responded with, “That’s because you protect him and his family. Just let me test him and he will curse you.” [my paraphrase] God allowed it.

Through all of his trials and tribulations Job held on to his integrity. His wife sure wasn’t a great influence on him with her words. “Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die. Uff Da… Not much support there.

Job had three friends show up. They told him he must have done some grave sin to get this terrible suffering in his life. Not much help here.

But even after he suffers so much in a test of his integrity The words Job says to his three friends in chapter twenty-seven are truly amazing. “I will not deny my integrity!” But Job does questions God’s intentions, “Why me?”

The story continues and Elihu a true friend comes to comfort. He helps him see that God is truly in charge and all things are in His hands. Thank God for the Elihus in life.

After all of Job’s time questioning God the Creator God replies with, “What do you know about the order of things and why I do what I do?” [my paraphrase again] God tested him for a reason unknown to anyone but God alone.

We are His property and He can do with us as He sees fit. We can all expect to be tested in this life. Our integrity will constantly be on the line as we go through life’s test. We don’t know the whys of testing in life. Things happen we don’t or can’t understand. But they do happen to all of us. Maybe we can look at things this way… Testing is a form of ministry and a show of our faith in God as we go through difficult times. People watch us to see how we deal with life’s dilemmas and how we deal with the faith we profess in God.

At the end of Job’s testing he was restored and his friends showered him with more than he had before. His integrity remained intact and he was rewarded.

Dear God, may we endure the test of life and maintain out integrity.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Will