

Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C Bible Band

Lesson 2 December 12, 2023

REWARDS OF PERSEVERANCE



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REWARDS OF PERSEVERANCE

▶ Background Reading:

- ▶ Romans 5:3-5
- ▶ 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12
- ▶ Hebrews 10: 35-36
- ▶ James 1:12
- ▶ James 5:7-11

▶ Devotional Reading:

- ▶ Job 1:6-22

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Background Scripture: Romans 5:3-5

3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.



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Background Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.



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Background Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:

7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:

8 For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.

9 For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;



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Background Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

11 Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.

12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:



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Background Scripture: Hebrews 10: 35-36; James 1:12

35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

James 1: 12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.



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Background Scripture: James 5:7-11

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.



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Background Scripture: James 5:7-11

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

2 And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

3 His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

4 And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.



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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them.

7 And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.



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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.



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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

12 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them:



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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.



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Devotional Reading: Job 1:1-22

18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,

21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

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Central Verse: James 5:11, KJV

Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

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INTRODUCTION

As we face many setbacks and trials, we must decide that we will never give up on God's purpose for our lives. Even when it seems that life stinks, we know that the paths through life are rarely straight. There are times when we will have to encourage ourselves, so we may continue our course no matter how difficult it may be at times. We cannot afford to allow ourselves to become so discouraged that we lose our heart for our journey with God. We know that growth is not always easy, so we seek strength from God, the Word, and our prayer life to overcome our human weaknesses. As we submit to God, we are empowered to live for Him every day of our lives. Whether at home, in the neighborhood, or in the city.



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DISCUSSION

To follow Jesus takes endurance. Faithfulness and perseverance are very important in our spiritual lives. God wants faithfulness in large and small things. He wants us to live with perseverance so that we can become more perfect before Him. James told the believers to be patient and endure whatever they must go through because the Lord is coming.



DISCUSSION

Perseverance is the key so that our faith does not waver during difficult situations. Sometimes, when our life is hanging on by a thread, when we are losing faith, and are short on strength, that when we need encouragement. Sometimes it is difficult for us to face our fears and remember that we are not alone. Remember that God promised to never leave us, and that God will be with us through the hills and the valleys. Perseverance will also increase the capacity of our faith and heart to be ready to receive God's miracles. Some growth can only come through receiving a miracle from God.

DISCUSSION

Thank God, that we can draw strength from reading and receiving Hebrews chapters 11 and 12. These early believers held on when it seemed like there was nothing to hold on to. The Word tells the believer that after we have stood as long as we can, just keep right on standing, don't give up, stand anyhow, keeping our eyes on the finish line. We must not throw in the towel, even when we are tired and feeling defeated. We must keep going, for it's the one who endures to the end that will be saved.

DISCUSSION

Job's story is one of the most popular stories of perseverance in the bible. Most believers can tell you how Job suffered such extreme pain, suffering, and loss. The Word of the Lord tells how Job was such a righteous man who loved God and followed His teachings. God had blessed Job to be a wealthy man with a wife and wonderful children.

DISCUSSION

God and Satan had a conversation about Job. Satan asked if he could attack and take from Job, and God allowed it. Satan's goal was to break Job's will and cause him to curse God. Job went through extreme losses, he lost all his material wealth and his children. His friends came and sat with him for seven days. They did not talk to him. Finally, when they did speak, they spoke with false accusations.

DISCUSSION

This hurt Job so much, for he had already dealt with his wife not understanding. She told him to curse God and die, but Job withstood the pain of betrayal and kept praising God. He did not understand all that was going on in his life, nor did he like what was going on, but he trusted God. He knew God as a righteous God. It is important that we, as believers, really know God and have a real relationship with Him. While losing everything that he owned, and suffering in his body, Job was able to persevere and say, “though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.”

DISCUSSION

Though Job could not see nor feel God with him, God was there all the time. God finally intervened and encouraged Job to be brave, which he did. Job was able to pray for his friends and God had mercy on them. God restored Job's health, his wealth, and his children and allowed him to have a long and prosperous life.

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CONCLUSION

James knew how important it was to keep the morale of the Saints up. He encouraged the believers in the community who were struggling by reminding them that the Lord was aware of what they were going through. He reminded the believers that they had hope, that things would not always be like that, for Christ is going to return. God knows all about us, He knows the good and He knows the bad, and in His omniscient way, He will come to our rescue.



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CONCLUSION

Remember that God is a God of compassion and mercy, and He will not forget your plight. Just as He remembered the saints of old who endured in the face of suffering, He will remember us and we will be blessed for our perseverance. Job lost everything that he had, but in his later days, he was blessed with double for his trouble. After the farmer plants his seed and waits for the sun and the rain to do their jobs. He receives a harvest that is so much more than the seed he sowed, some thirty, sixty, and even a hundred fold.



ESSENTIAL THOUGHT

You may not understand nor like what God allows in your life, but if you trust Him, God will bless you beyond measure.

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Next Lesson:

December 19, 2023

Lesson 3

Dealing with Prayers and Faith

