

WHY ME, LORD?

TEXT: Job 1:1, 13-20

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We know that Prov. 13:15, "The way of the transgressor is hard..."
- B. The righteous are not immune to suffering.
- C. We do not always suffer merely because of our own sin.
- D. We live in a sin-cursed world in which suffering is common.
 - 1. The innocent often suffer due to sins of the guilty.
 - 2. The consequences of Adam's sin, (Not guilt) are on us.
 - a. 1 Cor. 15:22.
 - b. Rom. 5:18.
- E. Consider these good people:
 - 1. Job- Job 1:1.
 - 2. Joseph.
 - 3. Paul.
 - 4. Jesus.
- F. Righteousness does not immunize us from trouble- yet it is the only way to be truly happy- James 1:12 "**Blessed is the man who endures temptation;. . .**"
- G. Many have a misunderstanding of what to expect of the Christian life.
- H. To keep from being disappointed, discouraged, notice these:

BODY:

I. YOU CANNOT EXPECT FREEDOM FROM THE LAWS OF NATURE.

- A. Job's children killed by such.
 - 1. Job 1:19- hurricane force wind.

2. Job 1:16- fire.
- B. Some things are both good and bad.
1. Fire burns, but also cooks and warms for us.
 2. Water drowns, but also quenches thirst, floats ships and powers dams for our electricity.
- C. The righteous can expect as much rain as his atheistic neighbors. Matt. 5:43-47.
- D. We have the promise that we have God's providence- Rom. 8:28 **“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”**

II. YOU CANNOT EXPECT FREEDOM FROM SICKNESS, DISEASE OR INJURY.

- A. Notice these good people:
1. Job 2:7.
 2. Timothy- 1 Tim. 5:23. **No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.**
 3. Trophimus- 2 Tim. 4:20. **Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick.**
 4. Paul- 2 Cor. 12:7-10.
- B. The outward man is destined to decay and die.
1. 2 Cor. 4:16.
 2. Heb. 9:27 "As it is appointed unto man once to..."
 3. Ecc. 12:6-7 **Remember your Creator before the silver cord is loosed, Or the golden bowl is broken, Or the pitcher shattered at the fountain, Or the wheel broken at the well. Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it..**
- C. The Christian must suffer as others in many ways- 1 Pet. 5:9.
- D. The Christian can expect peace of mind to endure troubles.
1. Jas. 1:2-5.

2. Matt. 5:3-4.
3. Blessed- calm understanding.

III. YOU CANNOT EXPECT FREEDOM FROM SORROW.

A. Job had his troubles, and sorrows.

1. Job 3:10 Job 3:10 (NKJV) **Because it did not shut up the doors of my mother's womb, Nor hide sorrow from my eyes..**
2. Job 3:26 **I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest, for trouble comes."**
3. Job 5:7 **Yet man is born to trouble, As the sparks fly upward.**
4. Job 14:1 **"Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble.**
5. Job 17:7 **My eye has also grown dim because of sorrow, And all my members are like shadows..**

B. Later Job's sorrow turned to joy.

1. Job 41:22 **Strength dwells in his neck, And sorrow dances before him..**
2. Job 42:12 **Now the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning.**

C. We may face persecution.

1. 2 Tim. 3:12 **Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution..**
2. 1 Pet. 4:16 **Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter..**

D. You can expect encouragement, fellowship from brethren and other good people.

1. Rom. 12:10, 15.
2. Heb. 13:1 "Let brotherly love continue."
3. Ps. 37:25 **I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.**

IV. YOU CANNOT EXPECT FREEDOM FROM TEMPTATION.

- A. Job was tested, but bore it patiently- Job 2:9-10.
- B. Jesus was tempted- Matt. 4:1-11.
- C. Satan is trying to get us- 1 Pet. 5:8.
- D. Israel was tempted by the food in Egypt- Num. 11:4-6 **Now the mixed multitude who were among them yielded to intense craving; so the children of Israel also wept again and said: "Who will give us meat to eat? "We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; "but now our whole being is dried up; there is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!"**
- E. We often have an appetite for the world.
- F. God will provide a way of escape.
 - 1. 1 Cor. 10:13 **No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it**
 - 2. An incentive for escape- Jas. 4:6-10.
 - 3. A formula for success- Ps. 119:11 **"Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against thee."**
 - 4. A reward for resisting- Jas. 4:6-10.

V. YOU CANNOT EXPECT A MIRACULOUS SOLUTION FOR YOUR PROBLEM.

- A. Job had to suffer through it all.
- B. Our problems would be better prevented than cured.
- C. Rely on God's help- Psa. 46:1 **"God is our refuge and strength a very present help in trouble."**

CONCLUSION:

- A. We are under the:
 - 1. Laws of nature.
 - 2. We have sickness, injury and disease.
 - 3. We have sorrow.

4. We are tempted.
 5. We can not expect a miraculous solution or our problems.
- B. We cannot expect a miraculous cure for sin, must obey the GOSPEL.