



1 Peter 5:8-11

Your Adversary the devil-Part 3

(Job-Satan, Suffering, Sovereignty)

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1 Peter 5:8-11

⁸ *Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To Him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

What have we learned thus far?

- All true believers have an enemy in Satan
 - He is not working alone but with fallen angels/demons, unbelieving humans, & system of this world
 - Satan's desire is to destroy you (devour)
- We are called to be sober-minded/watchful
 - Sober-minded-To be collected in our spirit (controlled), not intoxicated with world
 - Watchful-alert, ready, vigilant (no spiritual down time)
- We are to resist him firm in our faith
 - Resists-oppose, withstand
 - Firm-Unshakable
 - Faith-What we believe concerning God
 - Peter is calling us to oppose the devil by having rock solid faith in God's word (in order to do this we must know God's word)
 - Our spiritual warfare with Satan is a battle for truth (a battle to see)

What have we learned thus far?

- Know that the same kind of sufferings are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world
 - You are not alone in your warfare (warfare often involves suffering)
 - Our suffering, although real and may cost you your physical life, it is temporary (perspective)
- After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you
 - Although it is His grace, we have responsibility (Standing firm in faith)
 - We **cannot** do this without God, and He **will not** do it without us
- To Him be dominion forever and ever, Amen
 - There is purpose in our spiritual warfare (suffering)

Job

- V1-Job was blameless & upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.
 - Satanic attacks/warfare/suffering are brought on the God-fearing and God-honoring (Job's friends give bad counsel)
 - Jesus was subject to Satan's attacks (Matt 4:1-11, Mark 1:12, Luke 4:1-13)
 - Be careful when giving counsel to those who are suffering
- V2-5 Background setting (earthly perspective)
- V6-12 Heavenly perspective
 - God is giving us insight regarding Himself, Satan, spiritual warfare
 - God is going to test Job's faith (2 Cor 12 Humility, James 1 Perfect faith, 1 Peter 1 Purify)
 - Satan is prowling around like roaring lion seeking someone to devour
 - Satan is the accuser, and he accuses Job saying he only fears God because God has blessed him materialistically & protects him
 - V11 Satan's goal-Devour Job and rob God of glory "*he will curse you to your face*"
 - V12 God is sovereign over Job's suffering, telling the devil how far he may go
 - Nothing happens in the life of the believer without the permission of God
 - Psalm 84:11 *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

Job

- Satan is out to destroy Job and his faith
- Simultaneously God is working to test Job's faith (ultimately for his good)
 - God's chosen instrument to test Job is Satan
 - While condemning sin, God ordains sin, working in and through sin to accomplish His purposes (Acts 4:27-28)
 - We often struggle to believe good is working, when sin & suffering are present
- V13-19 Satan seeks to destroy Job and his faith through sin & suffering
 - V15 robbery and murder
 - V16 working through weather (lighting)
 - V17 robbery and murder
 - V18-19 working through weather (tornado)
 - Satan, the god of this world (2 Cor 4:4), can wreak havoc on humanity, but God sits sovereign over it all (Nothing happens without God's approval)
- V20-22 God grants Job the grace to persevere through the suffering attacks of Satan
 - *The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord*
 - *Job did not sin or charge God with wrong*
 - **Lamentations 3:33** *for He does not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men.*

Job

- At this point, we would say ‘That is enough’ but it is not over
 - It seems as though Job passed the testing of his faith (He worshiped)
 - Can you imagine the mental spiritual warfare going on? “You did what was right and now God is making you suffer more?” (Joseph felt the same way in the dungeon after he obeyed God regarding Potiphar’s wife) Psalm 105:19/Gen 50:20
- Ch2v1-3 Heavenly perspective
 - Satan is prowling around seeking someone to devour
 - God is going to test Job’s faith again
- Satan’s desire is to destroy Job and his faith v4-5
 - God allows Satan to touch Job but not kill him v6
 - Satan can kill the body (Revelation 2:10 *Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life*)
 - Satan struck Job with loathsome sores v7-8
 - Job’s wife is used against him (discourage) v9
- V10 Job stands firm in his faith
 - *Shall we receive good from God and shall we not receive evil? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.*

Job

- Chapter 38-42 God uses truth to help Job see (build his faith)
 - In our struggles of suffering and battling against Satan, we must renew our minds with truth from God’s word so we can stand firm against the enemy
 - Maybe you find yourself here right now, as you have endured suffering for a long time (and seemingly have been faithful during the trial and you are beginning to question to justice and goodness of God)
- Ch 38-42 give insight to God and His infinite wisdom, infinite power, infinite righteousness hopefully building faith in us that we can trust Him
 - Chapter 38-39 God gives insight
 - Chapter 40:3-5 Job gains perspective
 - Chapter 42:1-6 Job sees
 - ***V5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you***
 - In our suffering, trials, warfare we learn dependence and truth that outside of these we would not know
 - Knowing this, we can rejoice in our weakness, because when we are weak, then we are strong
 - Ch42v11 *“And they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him.”*

V22 Have you entered the storehouses of snow?



- Wilson Bentley, a Vermont farmer, took photographs of snowflakes under a microscope as a hobby. These photographs were published in the "Monthly Weather Review" in 1902.
- Crystals are some of the most beautiful and fascinating objects around. Their symmetry and highly reflective faces are so perfect, it is sometimes hard to believe that they are the products of natural processes.

What have we learned?

- Warfare & suffering come to all believers (even the blameless)
- In suffering/sin Satan is out to devour you & your faith, while God is working to build & purify faith
- Satan can only go as far and as long as God says
- God always provides the grace equivalent with the suffering
- Truth is what builds us up and helps us stand firm
- God is glorified when we stand firm and resist the devil