



# Full Gospel Church

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## TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

**T**here are many times during our life that we have to face many trials, tribulations, and problems. Numerous times these trials seem to overwhelm us. There are times when we are sick and have to be hospitalized, our economic condition collapses, or some other malady that creates a very sore condition for us.

Throughout the Bible there have been many who have found themselves in dire straits. A few examples are Joseph, Job, Jeremiah, Peter, John, and others. Each of these men of God found themselves in dire straits that were totally beyond their control.

- Joseph  
Sold as a slave to Ishmeelite merchants by his brothers for 20 pieces of silver.
- Job  
Physically attacked by Satan with boils and other ailments.
- Jeremiah  
Treated as a traitor and thrown into a pit.
- Peter  
Thrown in jail on numerous occasions and eventually executed.
- John  
Boiled in oil and exiled to the island of Patmos.

Each of these men of God knew the power of God and how to use it, but they didn't use the power for their own will. They were humble men of God who knew the will of God and

when was the right time to use the power of God. First, we will look at Joseph who was considered a dreamer by his brothers.

### **Genesis 37:13-36**

13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.

14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou?

16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.

17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.

18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.

20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.

21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

## TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

22 And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him;

24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.

26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.

28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.

30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?

31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;

32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.

33 And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.

34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.

35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.

Here is a young man who is only 17 years old being sold as a slave to merchants by his own brothers. Though Joseph was only 17, he was very familiar with the Lord. He also knew to trust the Lord and that everything would work out for good in the end. When you read the book of Genesis you will see that when his family came to Egypt for food, he did not retaliate against them, but sold them the food that they required and gave them a little extra.

Joseph knew that it was God's will for him to be sold as a slave and eventually to rise up as one of Egypt's leaders. Though, while he was being thrown into a pit and sold as a slave, I'm sure that he did not feel good about his condition. At the time he probably did not feel very good about his brethren. As a saint of the Lord, he went along with the adverse conditions and waited patiently for the Lord's will to reveal itself.

The next person we will look at is Job. Here is a man who came under the very attack of Satan!

## TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

### **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.

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.

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.

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:

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.

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

# TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS

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.

Here we see where Satan tempts God to take away God's protection. No matter what Satan does to Job, Job holds fast to the Lord. Even Job's wife admonishes him to curse God and die, but Job does not waver.

The other saints in the Bible all went through hard trials. There is a doctrine in some Christian circles that tells us that Satan can be crushed as a gnat, and we are victorious over everything that the devil throws at us. There are some who even preach that the Lord wants us to be financially wealthy. The ones who preach this doctrine are preaching to the flesh and not to the spirit. The Christian needs to realize that we will face all kinds of trials and tribulations, but if we continue to walk in the

path that the Lord wants us to walk, he will eventually bring us through victoriously. It is not easy to go through these trials, but every trial we come through makes us stronger in the Lord. James put it this way:

## **James 1:1-4**

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

We need to follow the teaching of James and Job that when we find ourselves in various trials, to worship the Lord anyway, knowing that the Lord will bring us through victorious.

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### **Services:**

Sunday School . . . . . 11:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 12:00 Noon  
Sunday Evening . . . . . 6:30 PM  
Wednesday Evening . . . . . 7:30 PM

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