Christian Survival Kit
2-16-14

Job 1:
[1]In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. [2] He had seven sons and three daughters, [3] and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

Job 1:
[6] One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. [7] The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

[8] Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

[9] "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. [10] "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. [11] But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

As the story continues:

In ONE day, Job loses:

- All of his flocks – his main possessions and livelihood
- Most of his servants
- All of his children

Translate this to today:

- Your 401K and savings are completely wiped out
- You lose your job
- Your house has been foreclosed on
- Your cars have been repossessed
- Your children are all killed in a car crash
- Your spouse ends up in a mental institution because of grief

Job 1:
[20] At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground **in worship** [21] and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.
The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;
may the name of the LORD be praised."

[22] In all this, **Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.**

Later in the story:

Job 2:

[7] So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. [8] Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes.

[9] His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!"

[10] He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. **Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?**"

In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

Points to note:

- Job's reaction to troubles and hardship was to worship God.
- Job did not charge God with wrong doing.
- Job accepted both the good and the troubles from God without complaining.

My Story:

Not Poor Heidi, rich Heidi

2006: Dad ill and then died, mom almost died several times in the next few months
2007: Our youngest daughter met and married a man she barely knew, walked away from God
2009: My husband was laid off work and has not found a job since
My mother's health began declining, requiring more care giving
2010: My mom was diagnosed with leukemia and started high powered chemotherapy pills
2011: I started having physical problems, weird symptoms, trips to emergency room
My mom's health and strength continuing to decline, more care giving
Older daughter met husband – we had 7 weeks to prepare semi-formal wedding
2012: May – I had an obstructed small intestine, in hospital 3 days, bleeding, all kinds of tests, bad advice from doctors
Sept – Mom was very ill, blood transfusions, fluid removed from lungs, very weak
2013: Feb – May I had 5 episodes relating to my intestinal problem
March – Mom had a major stroke, in hospital and nursing care for 1+ month, 24 hour care when came home
April – Youngest daughter called to tell us they are getting a divorce
May – major pain warning from God, had to threaten doctor to run more tests and see surgeon
July – had exploratory laparoscopic surgery to unwrap intestines from scar tissue, doctoring saying "I can't believe you were up walking around.", thought I was home free

2 weeks later a severe double blockage requiring second surgery and removal of 6 inches of my intestine, incredibly weak and hard recovery, several times thought I would die, humbling, got compassion for my mom and her struggles

Oct – Mom had another stroke and 2 weeks later passed on

Also extreme family problems with one sibling not accepting Mom's decline, making serious false accusations against me, trying to pull things with the estate. This has continued while trying to settle estate.

How did I survive all of this?

- **Holding on to the Word of God** – the truth of who God is and His intent toward me
  - **John 10:10** "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I [Jesus] have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
  - **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

- **Worshipping God** even when it was the "sacrifice of praise"
  - **Heb 13:15** "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a **sacrifice of praise**—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

- **Prayer** and getting others to pray for me
  - **James 5:16** "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The **prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective**."

- **Putting on the full armor of God**
  - **Eph 6:10-13** "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, **so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground**, **and after you have done everything, to stand."**

- **Believing in a hope and a future**
  - **Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

- **Forgiveness (next week)**

Job 42

[12] **The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part.** He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. [13] And he also had seven sons and three daughters.
...
[16] After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. [17] And so Job died an old man and full of years.

Testimony of night I thought I would die

Where's your miracle?
God must not love you.
You can decide how you will die.

Jesus' temptation – when did Satan come to him?

Satan's lies are based on things that seem to be true.

After this I asked God if I was dying and He said no and began to speak to me of future travels.

I confessed "I choose life". I began to fight, rebuke, pray and lay hands on my stomach and commanded the intestines to start working. The next morning there were bowel sounds.

Asking God why did I have to go through this? What was the purpose of this trail?
To prepare you for what is to come.

Call up Worship Team

Time of prayer for those going through the fire, flood or storm.

2/16/14
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