

May 16, 2024

Never Give-up. God is in Control.

[Job 37:1-7](#)

²Listen, all of you, to the voice of God. . . .⁵At God's command, amazing things happen, wonderful things we can't understand. . . .⁷He brings the work of men to a stop; he shows them what he can do.

The Book of Job (one of the Wisdom Books) has always intrigued me because I find it so different from all the other books of the Bible. It's a story that asks the age-old question, "why do the righteous suffer?" I have pondered that question many times myself.

When my late husband, Bill (Rev. Turley) came down with ALS, I asked the question "why him?" He was such a good Christ-like man. But Bill asked a different question: "why not me?" He never complained during the 2½ years ALS held him in its grip. ALS took his active life to the point where he had to depend on others for everything.

"Job suffered. His name is synonymous with suffering. He asked "why? He asked, "why me"? And he put his questions to God. He asked his questions persistently, passionately, and eloquently. He refused to take silence for an answer. He refused to take clichés for an answer. He refused to let God off the hook." (Quoted from *The Message*)

Three of Job's friends came to comfort him but instead discouraged him because of the Jewish belief of that time that if things go bad, you must have done something to deserve it.

Just like Job, we have storms in our lives: illness, financial problems, divorce, drugs, mental anguish, family feuds, and other stressors. Listen to the voice of God as it echoes through the thunder. God is in control of nature through the weather in the rain, snow, lightning, and wind. Other ways we hear the voice of God: in Scriptures, that still small voice, a nudge, through others, a dream, a sermon, music, and nature.

Job didn't understand his losses, and neither do we at times. For now we see through a glass dimly but then face to face. God does not give an answer to Job's questions, but he does, in the end, respond to Job's faith by overwhelming him with his divine power and wisdom. Job then humbly acknowledges God as wise and great and repents of the angry words he had used.

Prayer: *Oh Lord, help me to follow your ways and not mine. Amen
I pray the Serenity Prayer everyday: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen*

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