



# BROKEN

PIECES

Week 2

## Job 2:1-10 TLB

<sup>1</sup> Now the angels came again to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan was with them.

<sup>2</sup> “Where have you come from?” the Lord asked Satan.

“From earth, where I’ve been watching everything that’s going on,” Satan replied.

<sup>3</sup> “Well, have you noticed my servant Job?” the Lord asked. “He is the finest man in all the earth—a good man who fears God and turns away from all evil. And he has kept his faith in me despite the fact that you persuaded me to let you harm him without any cause.”

4-5 “Skin for skin,” Satan replied. “A man will give anything to save his life. Touch his body with sickness, and he will curse you to your face!”

6 “Do with him as you please”, the Lord replied; “only spare his life.”

7 So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with a terrible case of boils from head to foot. 8 Then Job took a broken piece of pottery to scrape himself and sat among the ashes.

<sup>9</sup> His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to be godly when God has done all this to you? Curse him and die.”

<sup>10</sup> But he replied, “You talk like some heathen woman. What? Shall we receive only pleasant things from the hand of God and never anything unpleasant?” So in all this Job said nothing wrong.

If you could ask God any question and you knew He would answer, what would you ask?

I. God's perspective vs. our perspective.

## Acts 16:22-24 NLT

<sup>22</sup> A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods. <sup>23</sup> They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn't escape. <sup>24</sup> So the jailer put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks.

Our perspective is temporal and usually revolves around our **comfort**.  
God's perspective is **eternity**.  
Sometimes when **eternity** is involved  
God will put us outside our area of  
**comfort**.

## Acts 16:25-34 NLT

<sup>25</sup> Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of

every prisoner fell off! <sup>27</sup> The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted to him, “Stop! Don't kill yourself! We are all here!”

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

<sup>31</sup> They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.” <sup>32</sup> And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. <sup>33</sup> Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. <sup>34</sup> He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

## Genesis 39:21-23 NLT

<sup>21</sup> But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden. <sup>22</sup> Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. <sup>23</sup> The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.

## Genesis 45:4-8a ESV

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For

the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God.

II. What then was the purpose of Job's suffering?

## Job 29:7-25 NLT

<sup>7</sup> “Those were the days when I went to the city gate and took my place among the honored leaders.

<sup>8</sup> The young stepped aside when they saw me, and even the aged rose in respect at my coming.

<sup>9</sup> The princes stood in silence and put their hands over their mouths.

<sup>10</sup> The highest officials of the city stood quietly, holding their tongues in respect.”

- 11 “All who heard me praised me.  
All who saw me spoke well of me.
- 12 For I assisted the poor in their need  
and the orphans who required help.
- 13 I helped those without hope, and they blessed me.  
And I caused the widows’ hearts to sing for joy.
- 14 Everything I did was honest.  
Righteousness covered me like a robe,  
and I wore justice like a turban”.

15 “I served as eyes for the blind  
and feet for the lame.

16 I was a father to the poor  
and assisted strangers who needed help.

17 I broke the jaws of godless oppressors  
and plucked their victims from their teeth.

18 I thought, ‘Surely I will die surrounded by my  
family after a long, good life’”.

- 19 “For I am like a tree whose roots reach the water,  
whose branches are refreshed with the dew.
- 20 New honors are constantly bestowed on me,  
and my strength is continually renewed.
- 21 Everyone listened to my advice.  
They were silent as they waited for me to speak.
- 22 And after I spoke, they had nothing to add,  
for my counsel satisfied them”.

23 “They longed for me to speak as people long for rain.

They drank my words like a refreshing spring rain.

24 When they were discouraged, I smiled at them.  
My look of approval was precious to them.

25 Like a chief, I told them what to do.  
I lived like a king among his troops  
and comforted those who mourned”.

## Luke 18:9-14 ESV

<sup>9</sup> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

<sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.” <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted”.

## Job 42:5-6 NLT

<sup>5</sup> “I had only heard about you before,  
but now I have seen you with my own eyes.

<sup>6</sup> I take back everything I said,  
and I sit in dust and ashes to show my  
repentance”.

## James 1:2-4 ESV

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

<sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

### III. Three things to remember.

1. God is not the cause of suffering.

John 10:10 ESV

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

2. God has not **abandoned** me in the mist of my suffering.

Joshua 1:5b NLT

For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

3. There is a greater purpose for my suffering even though I can't see it at this moment.

Romans 8:28 NIV

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

