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My dear brothers in Christ I hope that these words help you to find some peace in your life in Prison. The story is from the book of Job in the Bible. Sometimes we cry out to God, where are you? and why have you abandoned me? Why is my life so bad here on earth? The Old Testament is full of stories that have great lessons and spiritual meanings but are not written as historical facts. Job is one of them it starts out with a really cool scene of God speaking to the devil about how wonderful his servant Job is.

The LORD said to the satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him, blameless and upright, fearing God and avoiding evil." ⁹ The satan answered the LORD and said, "Is it for nothing that Job is God-fearing? ¹⁰ Have you not surrounded him and his family and all that he has with your protection? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock are spread over the land. ¹¹ But now put forth your hand and touch all that he has, and surely he will curse you to your face." So, God allows Satan to take away all the gifts that he has been blessed with. Sort of like when were put in prison and lost your life of family and friends. Except in just one day Job lost everything in the most horrible of circumstances.

One day, while his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their eldest brother, ¹⁴ a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys grazing beside them, ¹⁵ and the Sabeans[Ⓜ] carried them off in a raid. They put the servants to the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁶ He was still speaking when another came and said, "God's fire has fallen from heaven and struck the sheep and the servants and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁷ He was still speaking when another came and said, "The Chaldeans[Ⓜ] formed three columns, seized the camels, carried them off, and put the servants to the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁸ He was still speaking when another came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their eldest brother, ¹⁹ and suddenly a great wind came from across the desert and smashed the four corners of the house. It fell upon the young people, and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you. Remember this is just a story but bad things do happen to people all the time. There is much tragedy and sorrow in this world from evil. It gets worse for Job the devil then attacks his physical body.

So then satan went forth from the presence of the LORD and struck Job with severe boils from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. He took a potsherd to scrape himself, as he sat among the ashes. ⁹ Then his wife said to him, "Are you still holding to your innocence? Curse God and die!"[Ⓜ] ¹⁰ But he said to her, "You speak as foolish women do. We accept good things from God; should we not accept evil?" Through all this, Job did not sin in what he said. Job is not tempted by the devil to curse or blame God for the evil. Just as you cannot blame God for the situation you are in. Even if you got messed over by the system, and had a bad lawyer and feel that your situation is not fair. Blame the devil and accept as Job did the bad that has happened to you. Do not turn you back on God because He is your loving Father and does not want bad things to happen to you. In fact, He (God) may have allowed the devil to attack you just to get your attention or to move you away from your old life. Everyone gives Job bad advice, his wife and many of his friends but Job stays true to God even though he questions God about why this is happening to him. Then in the end God answers Job by questioning him.

Then the LORD[Ⓜ] answered Job out of the storm and said: Who is this who darkens counsel with words of ignorance? Gird up your loins[Ⓜ] now, like a man; I will question you, and you tell me the answers! Where were you when I founded the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Job could not answer God and just finally admitted that now that He knows God personally, he repents. Then Job answered the LORD and said: I know that you can do all things,[Ⓜ] and that no purpose of yours can be hindered. By hearsay I had heard of you, but now my eye has seen you. Therefore, I disown what I have said, and repent in dust and ashes. So, when we were young, or not so young, we were introduced somehow to Jesus, and we may have been interested or not. We may have been excited, but our roots in Jesus were not strong or deep so it was easy for the devil to lead us astray. But then came the trouble in our lives of drugs and alcohol and we thought we were having fun but really, we were being harassed by the devil just like Job. After he suffered and had a lot of bad advice, he spoke to God with all his heart. And God answered him. God may not speak to you in words, but He will speak to you in thought. Talk to Him, but more importantly listen to Him. He wants you to acknowledge His son Jesus Christ, He wants you to be sorry for your sinful life and He wants you to do His will. His will is according to Mark is this: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

In the end of Job's long happy life God Blessed him more that he had before with riches and family. So my brothers in Christ we all take a lesson from the story of Job, the story of a Father's love and trust in Jesus.

Pray with me every night at 7 pm for God's love and Mercy on the whole world. Love michael