

Blessed

A Study of Job for the Suffering Saint

Session 7: Living Hope

By H. M. Coker

*“As an example of suffering and patience, brothers,
take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast.*

*You have heard of the steadfastness of Job,
and you have seen the purpose of the Lord,
how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.”*

James 5:10-11 (ESV)

Session 7: Living Hope

Session 7, Part 1:

Pray the Word: We have come to our last session together. I am so grateful you have studied with me and continue to “pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light” (Colossians 1:9b-12).

Hear the Word: Throughout this study we have observed many passages of Scripture multiple times, unraveling them layer by layer. This week we will observe them once again. We have combed out all the layers, everything is neat and tidy, now let’s tie it with a bow. Begin by reading Job 42:10-17.

1. What occurs in this passage? Make a bullet point outline of the events of Job 42:10-17.

2. Who brought this season of Job's life to an end?

3. The phraseology in Job 42:10a may cause certain confusion. We want to do our best to rightly handle the Word of Truth (2 Timothy 2:15b). Therefore, let's interpret Job 42:10a using Scripture. First read Isaiah 46:8-10 and write what you learn in the space provided.

4. Read Philippians 1:27-30. After instructing the Philippians to stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not be frightened in anything by their opponents, Paul tells them that this is a clear sign of their opponents' destruction and of their salvation. From whom does Paul say that salvation comes. (Philippians 1:28)

5. Now Read 1 Peter 5:10-11 and answer the questions in the space provided.
 - a. What four things does this passage say will be done for you?

 - b. When will this be done?

 - c. By Whom?

Apply the Word: Our memory verse is Romans 15:13. Write the passage in the space provided, take a picture of it with your phone, and read it every day until you can say it easily.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Romans 15:13

Session 7, Part 2:

Pray the Word: You, LORD, rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them. (Psalm 89:9). “The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it, you have founded them” (Psalm 89:11). “You have a mighty arm; strong is your hand, high your right hand. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you” (Psalm 89:13-14).

Hear the Word: Yesterday we learned that the Lord ended Job’s immediate season of suffering. At first glance it may even appear to be the happy ending to Job’s story — but is it the end of his story? Years ago, a mother who had just lost her child shared with me the frustration she felt when someone treated Job chapter forty-two as a happy ending. Yes, the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning, the Lord blessed Job with more children, and Job died an old man full of days (Job 42:10-17). But his first seven sons and three daughters were still dead, Job still had to live the rest of his life without them, and Job himself still died. Likewise, we look at our suffering today and think, “My illness isn’t healed. My reputation is not cleared. My finances are not restored. My scars of abuse still linger. My marriage is still broken. My child is still dead.” We suffer tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, and sword (Romans 8:35). For his sake we are being killed all day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered (Romans 8:36, Psalm 44:22). When will suffering end?

1. First let's consider the people of old. Read Hebrews 11:1-2, 6, 13-16, 39-40, and 12:1-2. Then answer the questions. Please note that Job is not specifically mentioned in this passage. The author writes that time would fail him if he told of them all (Hebrews 11:32).
 - a. By what did the people of old receive their commendation? (11:2)
 - b. According to Hebrews 11:6, it is impossible to please God without what?
 - c. Why? (11:6)
 - d. Hebrews 11:13 says, "These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth." What were they seeking? (11:14-16)
 - e. Hebrews 11:39-40 says, "And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect." To understand this better, read Matthew 13:17 and write what you learn.

- f. So, what is faith? (11:1)
 - g. Who is the founder and perfecter of our faith? (12:2)
 - h. What are we to do? (12:1-2)
 - i. I want to be sure you understand this. Who were the men of old looking to? Who are we looking to?
2. We have begun each session by reading James 5:10-11 on the title page. Let's remember now its context. Read James 5:7-11.
- a. We have seen previously that Job is an example of suffering and patience (James 5:10-11). What are the instructions given to you in this passage? (James 5:7-9)
 - b. Why? What are we waiting for? We are to be patient until when? (James 5:7)
 - c. We do not know on what day the Lord is coming (Matthew 24:42), but according to James 5:8-9 we do know what?

3. Read Matthew 24:36-44. Since we do not know on what day our Lord is coming and indeed he is coming at an hour we do not expect, what are we told to be? (Matthew 24:42,44)

4. Read 1 Peter 4:12-14. Peter tells us, "Do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when"...

5. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12.
 - a. For what are we suffering? (1:5)

 - b. God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant relief to you who are afflicted, when? (1:6-8a)

 - c. What vengeance will be wrought on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus? (1:8b-9)

 - d. When Jesus comes on that day, he comes to be what? (1:10-12)

6. Read Hebrews 10:32-39.

- a. The Hebrews had compassion on those in prison, and joyfully accepted the plundering of their property. Why? What kind of possession do believers have? (10:33-34)

- b. We are told to not throw away our confidence, which has what? (10:35)

- c. We have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what? (10:36)

- d. What is it that is promised to us who do not shrink back but have faith? (10:37-39)

7. We will look at this passage more tomorrow, but for now read 1 Peter 1:3-13 and then write 1 Peter 1:13 in the space below.

Apply the Word: Jesus said, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done” (Matthew 16:24- 27). The coming of the Lord is at hand, therefore be patient and establish

your hearts (James 5:8). Be awake and be ready (Matthew 24:42,44). For Christians, to live is Christ and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21). We share in Christ's sufferings and we will also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed (1 Peter 4:13). The Lord, the Righteous Judge, will award the crown of righteousness to all who have loved his appearing (2 Timothy 4:8). Lay aside every weight and sin, run with endurance, look to Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-2). Do not throw away your confidence, which has great reward (Hebrews 10:35). Preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13). When Jesus comes he will be glorified in his saints and marveled at among all who have believed, and the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in us, and we in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:10-12). Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay (Hebrews 10:37, Habakkuk 2:3). He has said, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20).

Session 7, Part 3:

Pray the Word: "This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life" (Psalm 119:50). "Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you" (Psalm 33:18-22).

Hear the Word: Peter tells us to set our hope fully on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13b). What are we hoping on? What are we promised?

1. Read 1 Peter 1:3-9
 - a. Though now for a little while, if necessary, we are grieved by various trials, we rejoice because (1 Peter 1:6) according to God's great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to what? (1:3)

- b. Through what? (1:3)
- c. To what? (1:4)
- d. What kind of inheritance is this? Where is it? (1:4)
- e. By God's power we are being guarded through faith for what? (1:5)
- f. Which is ready to be revealed when? (1:5)
- g. The tested genuineness of our faith which is more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire, will result in what? (1:7)
- a. When? (1:7)
- b. What do we have right now? (1:8)
- c. What is the outcome of our faith? (1:9b)

2. Read Romans 8:16-30

- a. The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then what? (8:16-17)

- b. Provided we what? (8:17)

- c. In order that we may also be what? (8:17)

- d. The sufferings of this present age are not worth comparing with what? (8:18)

- e. Creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God (8:19). For creation was subjected to futility (8:20), in hope that what? (8:21)

- f. We groan inwardly as we wait for what? (8:23)

- g. In what were we saved? (8:23-24a) (be specific, look back at 8:23 to see what “this” is referring to)

- h. Is hope seen? (8:24b)

- i. If we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with what? (8:25)
 - j. Those whom God foreknew he also predestined to what? (8:29a)
 - k. Why? (8:29b)
 - l. And those whom he predestined he also _____
And those whom he called he also _____
And those whom he justified he also _____ (8:30)
3. Read 2 Corinthians 4:14-18.
- a. According to 2 Corinthians 4:14, he who raised the Lord Jesus will also do what?
 - b. We do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being what? (4:16)
 - c. For this light momentary affliction is preparing what for us? (4:17)
 - d. As we look not to the things that are _____ but to the things that are _____. For the things that are seen are _____, but the things that are unseen are _____. (4:18)

- e. Look not to → Seen → Transient
Look to → Unseen → Eternal
4. Read 1 Timothy 4:7-10.
- a. Train yourself for... (4:7)
 - b. Godliness is of value in every way, as it holds... (4:8)
 - c. To this end we toil and strive, because... (4:10)
5. Go back to today's prayer and pray it again in light of the truth you have learned today.

Apply The Word: We “are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). But we are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise us like a thief. We are children of light, children of the day (1 Thessalonians 5:4-5a). So then, let us keep awake and be sober (1 Thessalonians 5:6), “having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:8b-11). One way we encourage one another and build one another up is by “addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart” (Ephesians 5:19). Therefore, let's add the last song to our playlist. This song is my favorite. Disclaimer: these artists are in no way affiliated with, nor have they endorsed this study. I am simply sharing a song which has blessed my walk and encouraging you to listen to it too.

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”
Performed and Composed By: Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
2021, Getty Music Label

Session 7, Part 4:

Pray the Word: “The LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!” (Psalm 84:11-12).

Hear the Word: Today, we will continue to observe Scripture which teaches us about the living hope to which God, according to his great mercy, has caused us to be born again (1 Peter 1:3), though now for a little while we are being grieved by various trials (1 Peter 1:6).

1. Read Philippians 3:7-4:1.

- a. I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of _____.
_____. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all
things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain _____
_____ (3:8-9a)
- b. That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his
_____, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I
may attain the _____ from the dead. (3:10-11)
- c. Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on
toward the _____ for the _____ of
_____. (3:13b-14)
- d. Where is our citizenship? (3:20)
- e. For whom do we await? (3:20)
- f. What will he do? (3:21)

2. Read 2 Timothy 2:10-12a.

a. Paul says he endures suffering for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain what? (2:10)

b. If we have _____ with him, we will also _____ with him;
if we _____, we will also _____ with him;

3. Read Matthew 5:2-12.

Blessed Are...	For...

	What is the instruction?

4. Read James 1:12.

- a. The man who remains steadfast under trial is called what?
- b. Why? What will he receive when he has stood the test?
- c. Who has God promised the crown of life to?

5. Read Revelation 2:10. What is given to those who are faithful until death?

Apply the Word: Paul wrote, “I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him” (Philippians 3:8-9a). How do you count the things of the world? Consider your possessions, your reputation, your accomplishments, your mistakes? We are to forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, pressing on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13b-14). Because “our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Philippians 3:20). Therefore, do not fear (Revelation 2:10). Remain steadfast under trial (James 1:12). God has promised you who love him, the crown of life (James 1:12, Revelation 2:10).

Session 7, Part 5:

Pray the Word: Lord God, “I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever” (Psalm 73:23-26). “To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen” (1 Timothy 1:17).

Hear the Word: 1 Peter 5:10-11 says, “And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.” Let’s look today at the end result of suffering.

1. Read Romans 9:23-24. Those who God has called, he has prepared beforehand for what? In order to make known what?

2. Read 2 Corinthians 4:15.

Paul said his suffering was so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase _____, to the _____ of _____. (4:15)

3. In Part 2 we studied 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12 and learned that the Thessalonians were suffering affliction for the kingdom of God (2 Thessalonians 1:5-6). Paul tells them that when Jesus comes on that day, he comes to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed (2 Thessalonians 1:10). To this end Paul prayed for them. Read Paul's prayer in 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12.

a. What request did he make to our God? (1:11)

b. Why? (1:12)

4. Read Romans 5:2.

a. Write Romans 5:2 in the space provided.

b. In what do we rejoice?

5. Read Revelation 5:13.

a. Who will say this?

b. What will we say?

6. Read Revelation 21:1-7.

Apply the Word: Beloved, In your suffering, remember the hope you have in Christ. Believers have been raised with Christ, “for if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his” (Romans 6:5) “If, then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.” (Colossians 3:1-4). One day “the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). Therefore, do not grieve as others do who have no hope, but encourage one another with these words (1 Thessalonians 4:13 and 18). God will dwell with us and we will be his people (Revelation 21:3). He will wipe away every tear from our eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things will have passed away (Revelation 21:4). To the thirsty he will give from the spring of the water of life without payment (Revelation 21:6). The one who conquers will inherit these things; he will be our God and we will be his sons. (Revelation 21:7). “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?” (Romans 8:35). “No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:37-39). Therefore, be patient (James 5:7). Remain steadfast (James 1:12, 5:11). Jesus is coming soon! (Revelation 22:20)

“Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.” (Jude 24-25).

I would love to know you are doing the study! Send me an email by going to the contact page of www.Surpassing-Worth.com. If this study has blessed your life, please share it with a friend.

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