



## The Questions of Suffering

Job 1:20-22 (HCSB)

*Then Job stood up, tore his robe, and shaved his head. He fell to the ground and worshiped,<sup>21</sup> saying: Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will leave this life. The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. Praise the name of Yahweh.<sup>22</sup> Throughout all this Job did not sin or blame God for anything.*

Job 2:9-10 (HCSB)

*His wife said to him, "Do you still retain your integrity? Curse God and die!"<sup>10</sup> "You speak as a foolish woman speaks," he told her. "Should we accept only good from God and not adversity?" Throughout all this Job did not sin in what he said.*

1. Am I asking the right question?

- Saying the world is unjust admits transcendent justice.
- In the face of evil and suffering abandoning your faith in God doesn't help you at all.
- God is not the source of suffering; He is the solution to suffering.

2. Could the point of suffering exist beyond my ability to presently understand?

- If God is a God infinite in love and power would it not also make sense that He be infinite in wisdom? (Job 37:23-24; Job 38:1-6)

- Could it be that God allows evil to exist so that we might see the world for what it is and seek God for who He is?
- Pain and suffering weakens our attachment to this world and strengthens our dependence on God.
- Suffering is temporary and transformational.  
(Revelation 21:1; Revelation 21:4-5)

3. Am I truly born again?

- God uses suffering to reveal His true worshippers.  
(1 John 2:3-6; Acts 5:40-42)
- How we handle suffering reveals who has a handle on us.
- Could God be using my suffering to reveal Himself to others?