

## Learning from Affliction – Part 8

### Introduction and Review

- We considered what Job learned from Affliction (Jas. 5:10-11; Job 42:1-6)
- Job learned that the Lord is compassionate & merciful
- The Lord is compassionate when He cares for us in affliction
- The Lord is merciful when He forgives our failures in affliction
- Job learned that the Lord is omnipotent – nothing is impossible
- Job learned that the Lord has a divine purpose in affliction

### I. The Lord is Compassionate & Merciful

#### A. Compassionate

*Many others **learned** the Lord is compassionate in suffering: Daniel (Dan. 1:9) – exiled, desperate crowds (Mt. 9:36; 14:14; 15:32) – helpless, sickness & hunger, 2 blind men (Mt. 20:34), destitute widow (Lk. 7:11-15) – death, 2 grieving siblings (Jn. 11:34-38) – death & every believer (Ps. 103:13).*

#### B. Merciful

*Many others learned the Lord is merciful in suffering: Lot & family (Gen. 19:15-16; 2Pe. 2:7-8) – sinful compromise, Jeremiah (Lam. 3:22-23) – exiled, Daniel & Israel (Dan. 9:9-10) – exiled & every believer (Rom. 12:1).*

### II. The Lord has Power & Purpose

#### A. Power

*Four teenagers were taken into slavery by the will of God & afflicted by the government, but God revealed His power in deliverance (Dan. 1:2, 6-7; 3:19-20, 26-28). Paul was afflicted to the verge of death, but God delivered in power (2Co. 1:8-10).*

#### B. Purpose

*Joseph was afflicted by his brothers & unbelievers for many years until he realized God's purpose (Gen. 37-44; 45:5, 7-8). Jonah was afflicted for disobedience until he realized God's purpose (Jon. 1-2; 2:9-3:3). Paul had a life-long thorn in the flesh, but God revealed His divine purpose (2Co. 12:7-10).*