

# JAMES 5

---

## Patient Like The Prophets

James 5:10-11



Turn to  
Hebrews 11:32-40



# Hebrews 12:1-3

**1** Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **3** For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.



## James 5:10-11

**10** As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. **11** We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.

# Positive Reinforcement

- James' Big Ideas

1. The Reality of God's Lordship
2. Proper Faith in the Present Time
3. Faithful Endurance in Trials

All 3 are present in these verses.



## D. Edmond Hiebert:

“James has been concerned to help believers to overcome the tendency to react like the world to the injustices heaped on them by the world. The world, by its very nature antagonistic to God and His kingdom, will continue to oppose God’s people. But if these truths grip the hearts of His people, it will enable them to overcome the spirit of worldliness by refraining from a worldly reaction to the world’s injustices.”



## 2 Examples to Emulate

1. The Prophets (v. 10)

2. Job (v. 11)

## James 5:10

“As an example,  
brethren, of suffering  
and patience, take the  
prophets who spoke in  
the name of the Lord.”

# James Knows His History

- In Chapter 2, he remembers Abraham and Rahab.
- In Chapter 5, he will remember Elijah.
- In the next verse, he will remember Job.

These are the “examples” James wants us to remember and ultimately imitate in times of trials.





## Matthew 5:10-12

**10** “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



## Matthew 23:34-35

**34** “Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, **35** so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.



## Acts 7:51-53

**51** “You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit; you are doing just as your fathers did. **52** Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become; **53** you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it.”





## Jeremiah: The Weeping Prophet





# Jeremiah 1:4-9

**4** Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, **5** “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.” **6** Then I said, “Alas, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth.” **7** But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ Because everywhere I send you, you shall go, And all that I command you, you shall speak. **8** “Do not be afraid of them, For I am with you to deliver you,” declares the Lord. **9** Then the Lord stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.”



## Jeremiah 7:25-27

**25** Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have sent you all My servants the prophets, daily rising early and sending them. **26** Yet they did not listen to Me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck; they did more evil than their fathers. **27** “You shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to you; and you shall call to them, but they will not answer you.

Turn to  
Jeremiah 20:7-13

Let's Pick Up at v. 14



# Jeremiah

## 38

---



# Look at Jeremiah 52:60-64



# A Prophet Understood

He must forego the benefits, even of religious success, in order to gain the promised divine benefits for those who persevere under trial.

- Remember James in 1:12?

“Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

# Are We Like the Prophets?

- Remember James 1:21?

“Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.”



# James' Point

Faithful believers are called to the same divine service as the prophets and should joyfully share the same destiny of suffering and, in time, of divine vindication.



## Acts 5



## Acts 5:41-42

**41** So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. **42** And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

## James 5:11

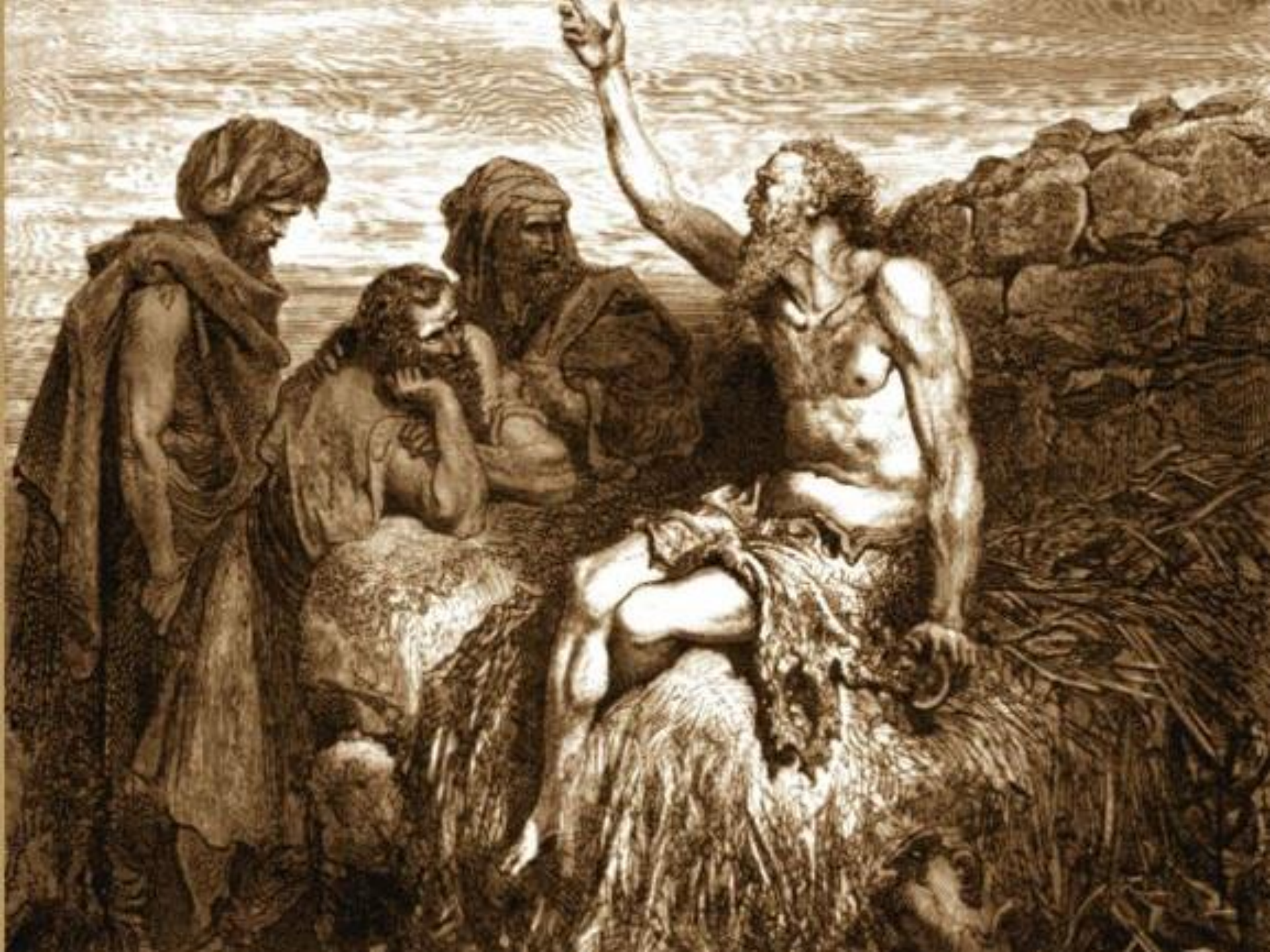
“We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord’s dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”



Truth For Us Today

“We count  
those blessed  
who endured.”







**Is Job a Good Example of  
Patient Endurance in  
Suffering?**

**Some May Say: He  
Complained an Awful Lot...**

**What Do You Think?**

**Is it Acceptable  
to Question  
God?**



## William Barclay:

“Job’s is no unquestioning submission; he struggled and questioned, and sometimes even defied, but the flame of his faith was never extinguished.”

Job 1:22

“Through all this  
Job did not sin  
nor did he blame  
God.”



# Job 2:3

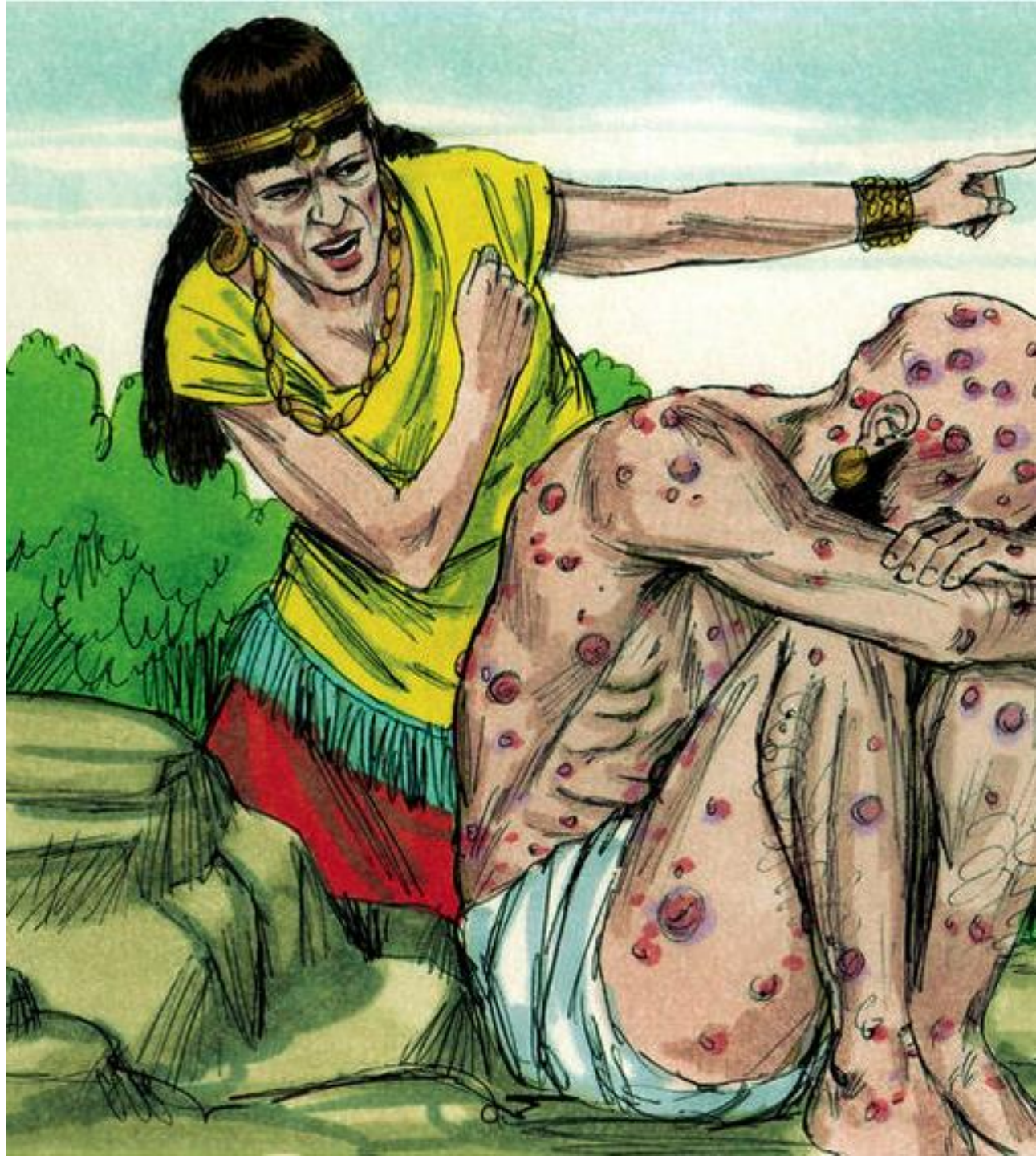
The Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man fearing God and turning away from evil. And he still holds fast his **integrity**, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause.”





## Job 2:9

Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast your **integrity?** Curse God and die!”





# The Sobering Truth

God allows the righteous man to be tested in order to prove their faith.

Let's make sure we understand this concept.

Turn to Hebrews 12:7-11.

Job as Prophet

Turn to  
Job 42:1-9



## William Barclay:

“There may be a faith which never complained or questioned; but still greater is the faith which was tortured by questions and still believed. It was the faith which held on grimly that came out on the other side”





# Do You Know God?

The believer knows God even in the midst of suffering, even when they must complain to the Lord over the agony of their lot.

And how does the story of Job end?

Let's continue reading in Job 42.





**James Says:**

**“You have heard of the  
endurance of Job and have seen  
the outcome of the Lord’s  
dealings”**

**James is reminding us what we  
already know!**

# What Do We Already Know?

That if anyone would have been justified in forsaking the Lord, it was Job.

And yet, Job knew God.

And James says, You Know God!



# Attributes of God

“the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”

- Faith is not confessed with intellectual assent to God's existence.
- Remember 2:19?

“You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.”

إِنَّمَا إِلَهُ الْإِسْلَامُ  
اللَّهُ وَكَرَّمَهُ الْإِسْلَامُ



## Exodus 34:6-7a

**6** Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; **7** who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin...

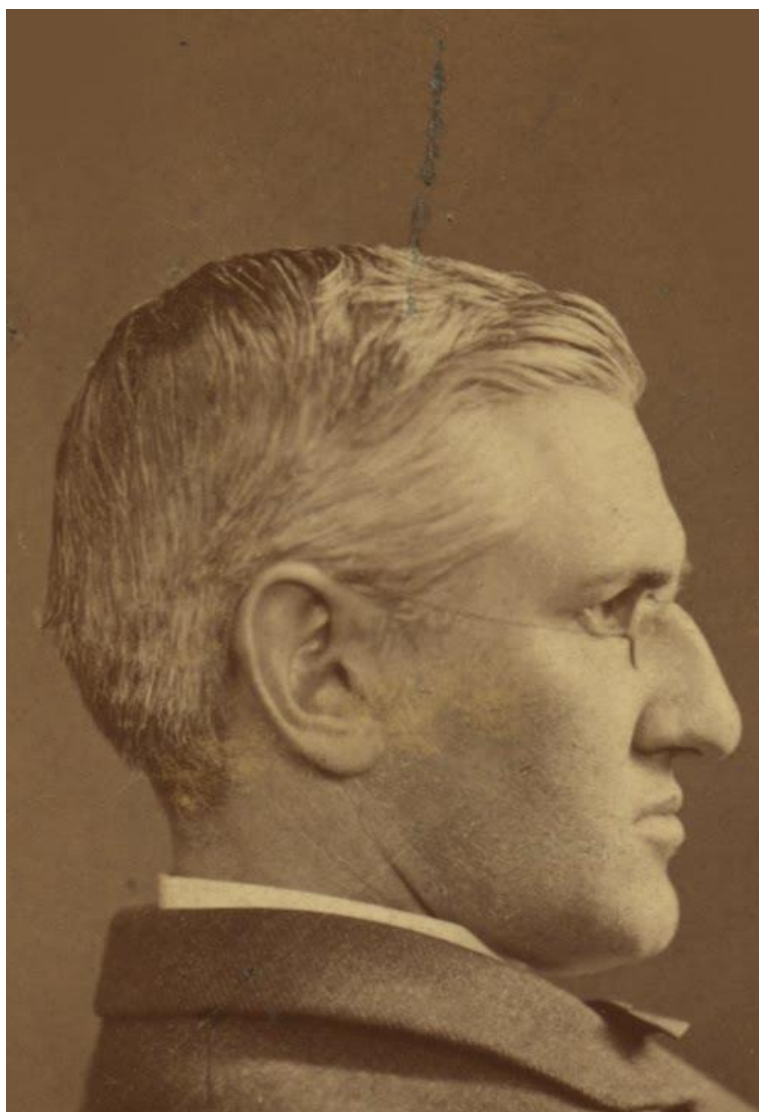
**There are Moments in Life  
When we Think that God has  
Forgotten Us.**

**But, if we cling to the  
remnants of faith, at the end  
we, too, shall see that God is  
very compassionate and very  
merciful.**



Job 13:15a

“Though He  
slay me, I will  
hope in Him.”



It Is Well with  
My Soul

**Horatio Spafford**





**Annie, 11**



**Maggie, 9**



**Bessie, 5**



**Tanetta, 2**

The Ultimate Question is:

Why?



