

Thursology 69: The Age of Victimhood: I've Been Done Wrong!!!

(Implications of the Tribulation-Pt 15)

(Thursology Live! 2/17/22)

--Review:

--Key Concept: It can be really difficult to tell the difference between hardship that comes as a direct test from GOD...hardship that comes from the ENEMY...and hardship that comes from just living in a FALLEN world

--Application: Amazingly...God can use others' intentional _____...to make us _____ than if we had never _____ the suffering that they _____!!!

--Three kinds of "victims":

--Person #1: _____ the role of the innocent _____

--Biblical figure: King _____

--I Sam 15:10-13, 16-20, 26-28:

--Saul has two perspectives that control everything in his life:

--His perspective on the past: He lost his kingdom because he was _____ off...and it's someone else's _____!!!

--His perspective on the future: For the rest of his life...Saul believes he's a _____...and the whole _____ is involved in a _____ against him.

--I Sam 22:8

--For all of you have conspired against me so that there is no one who discloses to me when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you who is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me to lie in ambush, as it is this day."

--The delusions of victimhood:

--Delusion #1: Everyone _____ against me!!!

--Delusion #2: No one feels _____ for me!!!

--The result of the delusions of victimhood: The victim's life is _____ by feeling _____ for themselves!!!

--Person #2: The _____ innocent _____

--Biblical figure: _____

--Person #3: The _____ innocent _____

--Biblical figure: Naaman's _____

--II Kings 5:1-19:

--The servant girl's testimony: She came to the point of such complete _____ in God that not even unfair _____ kept her from being _____...in the lives of her _____!!!

--Key Concept: Our response to our _____ can either make us _____...or it can make us like _____

--**Application:** There's a difference between _____ you're a victim...and actually _____ one

--Key Concept #1: Among these three biblical figures...the only one who actually _____ they were a victim...was _____

--Key Concept #2: The only one who _____ he was a victim...!!!

--A lesson from the real victims: Even though victimhood is _____...considering oneself a victim isn't...!!!

--The problems associated with "taking on" victimhood:

--Problem #1: It's often not _____

--The complication associated with Problem #1: You'll miss what you need to _____ from the _____ of your decisions, actions, and attitudes.

--Problem #2: If it's true...having the _____-understanding of victimhood...doesn't' help you have _____ over what _____

--Key Concept #1: Whether you're a true victim or not...if victimhood becomes your _____...it will _____ and _____ your life!!!

--Key Concept #2: You must _____ the bondage of victimhood...not by _____ a victim...but by _____ to be a victim!!!

--Key Concept #3: The only _____ victim in all of history...didn't _____ Himself...a victim!!!

--John 10:15, 17-18:

--"...even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep...For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again..."

--John 19:10-11:

--So Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?" Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above..."

--Why is picking up our Cross so central to being delivered from the bondage of victimhood???

--Because there can be no _____...unless first there's...a _____!!!

Thursology 68: WHAT??!! Evil Done Against Me Can Be GOOD for Me??? (Implications of the Tribulation-Pt 14)

(Thursology Live! 2/10/2022)

--Review:

--Key Concept: It can be really difficult to tell the difference between hardship that comes as a direct test from GOD...hardship that comes from the ENEMY...and hardship that comes from just living in a FALLEN world

--A really surprising biblical truth: **HARDSHIP** and **TRIBULATION** aren't necessarily **EVIL**

--A Non-Intuitive Truth: The reason a good God ALLOWS calamity is because...sometimes...the BEST thing for people is...PAIN!!!

--Malcomb Muggeridge: "The times in my life that were the best for me, weren't times of ease or comfort. As I look back over my life, most of the events and seasons in my life that made me a better person and shaped me into the kind of person I knew that I should be, weren't the good times. In fact, while I was going through them, I would have described them as being 'bad' times."

--Application: Amazingly...God can use others' intentional **EVIL**...to make us **BETTER** than if we had never **EXPERIENCED** the suffering that they **INFLICT**!!!

--Gen 37:12-14, 18-36

--Joseph's issues:

--Issue #1: Gen 37:1-2: Joseph was a TATTLETALE

--Issue #2: Gen 37:3-4: While it wasn't Joseph's FAULT that his father loved him more...it's obvious he played the part of the FAVORITE child...very well

--Issue #3: Gen 37:5-8: Joseph didn't know when to KEEP his mouth SHUT

--Issue #4: Gen 37:9-10: Joseph CLEARLY had an EGO problem

--The WHOLE truth about Joseph's "victimization": The brothers were responsible for their TREACHERY against Joseph...but Joseph was responsible for having a self-centered ATTITUDE...a lack of self-discipline with his WORDS...and a stunning lack of WISDOM!!!

--The shaping of a godly person

--Attribute #1: Genesis 39:1-6: → Despite being sold into slavery...Joseph was HARD-working, DILIGENT, and intensely LOYAL

--Attribute #2: 39:7-10: → Despite all of his mistreatment...Joseph was PURE and couldn't be CORRUPTED

--Attribute #3: 39:11-20: → Despite all of the suffering that the Lord had ALLOWED in his life...Joseph would pay any PRICE to keep his INTEGRITY

--Attribute #4: 39:21-23: → Joseph didn't allow even undeserved HARDSHIP to take away his DILIGENCE and his COMMITMENT to being the person he knew he SHOULD be

--Genesis 41:37-44 → 42:1-24 → 45:1-3

--Joseph's powerful testimonies of trusting in God:

--Testimony #1: 41:50-52 → The NAMES of his two boys

--Son #1: Manasseh: Hebrew: → "Causing to **FORGET**"

--Meaning: Rather than complaining to God about his horrible FAMILY...he praised God for making him FORGETFUL

--Son #2: Ephraim: Hebrew: → “**FRUITFULNESS**”

--Meaning: Rather than complaining to God about his **AFFLICTION**...he gave thanks to God for His many **BLESSINGS**

--Testimony #2: **45:4-8** → “...it was not **YOU** who sent me here, but **GOD**...”

--Testimony #3: **49:33-50:1** → **50:15-21** →

--“...you meant **EVIL** against me...but God meant it for **GOOD**...”

--Key Concept: We can be **GREAT**...or we can get **EVEN**...but we can't do **BOTH**!!!

--A Profound Biblical Precept: Because he was willing to entrust **EVERYTHING** in his life to God...Joseph allowed the very things that were meant to **DESTROY** him...to make like...**CHRIST**!!!

--I Pet 2:18-23: Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God. For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously...

--A really challenging question:

--What would happen if I lived as if **EVERY** circumstance in life is primarily an **OPPORTUNITY** to understand who God wants me **BECOME**???

--An incredible conclusion:

--No matter how painful my circumstances are...I would always **CHOOSE** what God **ALLOWS** in my life...if I knew **EVERYTHING** that He knows!!!