

## CHOOSING TO GIVE THANKS WHEN THE BOTTOM DROPS OUT

*Job 1:1-22; 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

### Outline

**Introduction:** Of all the true stories of hardship and tragedy, there is none like the story of Job in the Bible. Let's take a closer look at what horrific things happened to this Old Testament patriarch and how he responded. If you pay attention, it will give you some wise direction when you face unexplained suffering.

**Opening scene: Job, the righteous man described - vs. 1-5**

**The scene in heaven: a look behind the curtain - vs. 6-12**

**The scenes of destruction on Job's family and property - vs. 13-19**

**Job's amazing response to suffering - vs. 20-22**

**Ten reasons to give thanks to God in times of suffering:**

1. Suffering comes with the freedom to choose and to love - *1 Corinthians 13:1-8*
2. Pain warns us of danger - *Psalms 78:34-35; Romans 3:10-18*
3. Suffering reveals what is in our hearts - *Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-5; 1 Peter 1:6-8*
4. Suffering takes us to the edge of eternity - *Romans 8:18-19*
5. Pain loosens our grip on this life - *Ecclesiastes 12:1-14*

6. Suffering gives opportunity to trust God - **1 Peter 4:19**
  
7. God suffers with us in our suffering - **Philippians 3:10; 1 Peter 2:21; 3:18; 4:1**
  
8. God's grace is greater than our suffering - **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**
  
9. In times of crisis, we find one another - **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**
  
10. God promised to turn suffering around for our good - **Romans 8:28**