

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon notes for September 2-3, 2000

Dale Whitehead

"The Perseverance of Job"

James 5:10-11

The perseverance of the prophets

By New Testament times the persecution of the prophets was proverbial, being referenced in at least eleven passages (Matthew 5:12; 21:35-36; 23:29-37; Luke 13:33; Acts 7:51-52; Romans 11:3; 1 Thessalonians 2:15; Hebrews 11:32-38; Revelation 16:6; 18:24).

He who speaks in the "name of the Lord" speaks with His authorization as His delegated messenger.

"To be blessed" is not the same as being happy. Happiness normally suggests a subjective, emotional reaction; 'blessing' is the objective, unalterable approval and reward of God.

The perseverance of Job

Satan in essence said to God, "No one serves You for who You are but for what they can get."

We can endure and persevere in trials and yet struggle in our circumstances (Job 3:1, 11-19; 30:20).

But in spite of Job's struggle with his circumstances he never lost his faith in God (Job 13:15). The very greatness of Job lies in the fact that in spite of everything which tore at his heart, he never lost his grip on faith and his grip on God.

The God who revealed His abundant compassion and mercy in vindicating Job is the same today. The same spirit of steadfast loyalty to God under affliction will assuredly bring a fitting reward (James 5:11).