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English 201- Global Literature

October 14, 2021

GLOSS PAPER #1- BOOK OF JOB

What strikes me from the assigned class reading of my choice is the story of Job. In my own personal explanation of what I think, this story encompasses Jobs' suffering, his perspective on God changing and how suffering was critical in this story. The quote from the passage I would like to elaborate on is from Job 3:1 which states that, "After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth".

From this quote, one could see that, Job was dismayed with all the sufferings he encountered which was inflicted by Satan unto his life. Although Job was the greatest of all the people of the East, blameless, upright and also one who feared God and turned away from evil, he still suffered and his plights was rendered unmerited because he committed no sin. Job states that, "May the day perish on which he was born, and the night in which it was said" (Job 3:3). This explains many things and this is because, Job was tested of his faith and at the same time the lord revealed his omnipotence. The question I asked myself in this story was, will he serve God for nothing when evil comes upon him". I asked this because, Job was ignorant of his suffering and I could conclude that, this story calls us readers to be submissive to the Lord humbly no matter the situation we find ourselves in.

I have had many experiences relating to sufferings that is similar to Jobs story as well. From my own opinion and understanding, suffering is known to be the hardest problem to understand as a whole. It is a puzzle to me when I experienced one but I was able to overcome with the help of God, faith and prayers. Just as Job cursed the day, he was born due to his sufferings, I have also done same because at a point in time in my life, nothing seemed to work for me concerning finances, school, work and personal life which made me to have doubts about if we truly have a God who helps when one is in the suffering phase of this world. After all these happenings in my life, I finally came to a realization that, suffering is part of the human life cycle just as death that is inevitable at a point in life, each and every one experiences such in the phase

of life. Suffering has both physical and mental pain which can make one isolated but standing firm in the lord and following his commandments can revive us and bless us with more than we have lost.

From Job 3 downwards, one could see he started getting tired of his predicaments and began to lament about his birth as everyone in his shoes would have done the same, he needed an answer from God but he forgot that the good God has a purpose for his children even though he did not cause the suffering directly from him but rather gave Satan permission to do that. The real purpose of Job's story calls we Christians to humbly trust in the Lord during agony, pain and suffering because the Lord will strengthen us through all temptations and trails.

The book of Job teaches us that, suffering is not always a sin which was confirmed by God but it can be in the form of test of faith and time because at the end, it was a testimony that Job's blessings were restored in multiples back to him. In my own opinion to Job and humans as a whole, afflictions in one's life sometimes serves as a discipline and works to transform us into been more righteous in the sight of the lord. Pain in life leads to greater goods and lessons that can be learned. God uses suffering and evil in getting the attention of unbelievers and truly draw us closer to Himself. In conclusion, facing suffering and evil are not pleasant but when it happens, we must take heart as Christians because these are part of life experiences.