

*Behind  
The Scenes*

*God Is At Work....*

*Part II*

# Key Passages

## Job 1:6-12 (NIV)

6 One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them.

7 The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it." 8 Then the Lord said to Satan,

"Have you considered my servant Job?

There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

Satan replied. 10 "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land.

11 But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

12 The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

# Key Passages

## Luke 22:31-34 (NIV)

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

33 But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

34 Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

## Daniel 10:11-14 (NIV)

11 He said, "Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you." And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling.

12 Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. 13 But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. 14 Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."



## *Last Week....*

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Regulating What Is Allowed*

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Preparing You For What Is Next*

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Fighting Battles You Can't See*

# Introduction

One of the **greatest frustrations** in the Christian life is *living in the gap between what God has promised and what we presently see.*

*We pray, but nothing changes ~ We trust, but circumstances seem unchanged.*

*What we often fail to realize is that while we are focused on what is happening around us,  
**GOD IS WORKING ON THINGS WE CANNOT SEE.***

*Tonight, We will see that these things are often Internal ~ What God Is Producing Within  
We often focus on what God is Giving Us...*

*But Rarely Do We Shout About How God Is Transforming Us*

*God Knows Where He Is Taking Us*

*Therefore, He Develops within us what will be required for the NEXT SEASON*

*Job 23:10 (NLT)*

*10 “But **He knows where I am going.** And **when he tests me,** I will come out as pure as gold.*

*While We Are **Focused On Destination,** God Is Focused On **Development***

*While We Are **Focused On Promotions To Certain Platforms,** God Is Focused On **Preparation** For Them*

# Introduction

*This Is Why **Prayer Is So Frustrating** For Us...*

*We Are Praying **About Things** and God Is **Working On Transformation**  
We Are Asking God To Change This and Change That... **GOD IS CHANGING YOU**  
**FOR WHAT IS NEXT!***

*Romans 5:3-4 (NLT)*

*3 We can rejoice, too, **when we run into problems and trials**, for **we know** that they  
**HELP US DEVELOP ENDURANCE**. 4 And endurance **DEVELOPS STRENGTH OF CHARACTER**,  
and **character strengthens our confident hope...***

*James 1:2-4 (NLT)*

*2 Dear brothers and sisters, **when troubles come your way**, consider it an opportunity for great joy.  
3 For **you know** that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.  
4 **So let it grow**, for when your endurance is fully developed, **you will be perfect and complete,**  
**NEEDING NOTHING.***

*God Will Never Send You Into Your Next Season Without Preparing You For It!!!*

# *Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Proven Character*

*Job 1:8 (NLT)*

8 Then the Lord asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? *He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil.*”

*Many Times, We Highlight WHAT JOB HAD Before He Lost It  
The Livestock, The Wealth, The Family, The Possessions*

*That Is Not What God Was Boasting To The Enemy About...  
What Caught God’s Attention Was...*

*He Was Upright ~ He Feared God ~ He Lived With Integrity ~ He Prayed For His Family*

*The Enemy Thinks Job Was Praising God For Stuff*

*Job 1:9-11 (NLT)*

9 Satan replied to the Lord, “Yes, but *Job has good reason to fear God.*

10 *You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is!*

11 *But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!”*

*SO GOD SAYS IN ESSENCE ~ LET ME GIVE HIM AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE HIS CHARACTER*

# *Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Proven Character*

*Job 1:8 (NLT)*

8 Then the Lord asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? *He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil.*”

*So God Allows The Enemy To Touch His Stuff...*

*To Prove That Job’s Most Valuable Asset Is Internal Not External*

*So God Arranges An Opportunity For Trouble, Trials, and Testing  
So God Allows The Pressure To Come Into Job’s Life In This Season*

*WHY???*

*To Reveal His Character ~ To Refine His Character*

*The Trials/Trouble Didn’t Create Character In Job.... In Revealed It  
The Storms In Your Life Reveal What God Was Developing When It Was Calm*

*Character Is Revealed To Those Who Need To See A Visible Demonstration*

*Job 2:9 (NLT)*

9 His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to *maintain your integrity?* *Curse God and die.*”

# *Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Proven Character*

*Job 1:8 (NLT)*

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*The External Pressure Reveals What The Character Speaks*

*Matthew 12:34 (NLT)*

34 For *whatever is in your heart* determines what you say.

## *What Is In Job Comes Out Of Job Under Pressure*

*Job 1:21 (NLT)*

21 He said, “I came naked from my mother’s womb, and I will be naked when I leave. *The Lord gave me what I had, and the Lord has taken it away. Praise the name of the Lord!*”

*Job 2:10 (NKJV)*

10 *Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?”*

*Job 13:15 (NKJV)*

15 *Though He slay me YET WILL I TRUST HIM.*

# *Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Humility In You*

*Luke 22:31-32 (NIV)*

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat.

32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail.

And **WHEN** you have turned back, **STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS.**"

*Peter's Greatest Strength Was His Greatest Weakness ~ HIS CONFIDENCE*

*He was always the first to speak ~ First To Make Promises ~ First To Try The Impossible*

*Peter Believed There Was Nothing That HE Could Not Do*

*Luke 22:33 (ESV)*

33 Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death."

*Matthew 26:33 (ESV)*

33 Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."

So **God ALLOWED** him to discover his weakness!

So **God ARRANGED** for an opportunity for him to experience failure

**Not To Destroy him, BUT TO PREPARE HIM...**

*Before He Could Strengthen his brothers, He Needed to Experience Brokenness Himself*

**GOD NEEDED TO PRODUCE A SPIRIT OF HUMILITY WITHIN PETER**

# *Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Humility In You*

*Luke 22:31-32 (NIV)*

31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat.

32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail.

And **WHEN** you have turned back, **STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS.**"

*1 Peter 5:5-6 (ESV)*

5 Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God

SO THAT AT THE PROPER TIME HE MAY EXALT YOU,

*1 Peter 5:10-11 (ESV)*

10 And **after you have suffered a little while**, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

11 To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

*THE PETER BEFORE THE SIFTING TRUSTED PETER*

*THE PETER AFTER THE SIFTING TRUSTED IN GOD*

## APPLICATION

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Something Within*

*It May Be Character, It May Be Integrity, It May Be Patience, It May Be Endurance*

*Whatever God Is Producing...*

*He Is Using This Current Predicament As The Platform*

*While You Are Experiencing The Season, YOU WILL BE FRUSTRATED  
But Know This...*

*What God Is Producing In You Today  
Is What You Will Need For What Is Coming Next*

*Job 42:10 (ESV)*

*10 And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends.  
AND THE LORD GAVE JOB TWICE AS MUCH AS HE HAD BEFORE.*



## *In Conclusion....*

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Proven Character*

*Behind The Scenes, God Is Producing Humility In You*