



MESSAGE 6:

WORSHIP GOD ANYHOW

PASSAGE: JOB 1:13-21 ESV

13 Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, **14** and there came a messenger to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, **15** and the Sabeans fell upon them and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." **16** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you." **17** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The Chaldeans formed three groups and made a raid on the camels and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." **18** While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, **19** and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the

young people, and they are dead, and I alone have escaped to tell you."

20 Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. **21** And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

MESSAGE GOAL:

The goal of this message is encourage and inspire individuals to maintain a posture of worship before God and unto God regardless of their circumstances. It emphasizes the sovereignty of God, the importance of worship as a response to God's character and actions, and the need to trust in God's provision and care. Additionally, it seeks to clarify misconceptions about worship and shed light on the significance of worshipping God genuinely and authentically, even amidst pain, grief, or loss. Ultimately, the message aims to exalt God's name and encourage listeners to worship God wholeheartedly in every situation they face.

INTRODUCTION

In Job 1:20, the Hebrew word for worship is (vayishtahaveh). It comes from the root (shachah), which means “to bow down” or “to prostrate oneself,” and to bow down or prostrate yourself before something or someone was a significant physical act of worship. With that being said, it makes sense that God told God’s people to not bow down to any other false god, anything, or anybody else because worship only belong to the true God who created all things, sustains all things, and is the goal of all things. Those who worship the true and living God are not to worship anything or anybody except Him.

Furthermore, those who worship the true God, are to worship God in all circumstances.

Jesus informed us that our Father is the one who makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and unjust, Matthew 5:45, and while some may fail to recognize this truth, the people of God should recognize this truth and respond by worshiping Him in all, and through all. Solomon wisely stated that “to everything there is a season” and the point to be made is

our worship should persist regardless of the season we find ourselves in. The changing seasons or circumstances of life should not alter our posture of worship.

Here it is: Our worship unto God should not be determined by seasons or circumstances but should be grounded in who God is and what God has commanded for us to do.

Whether you are aware or not, God is God in every season and circumstance you encounter. God is not more or less of God when you go through different seasons or circumstances. God is God regardless of seasons or circumstances, or to put it a better way, God is God because of seasons or circumstances, because if not for God, there would be no seasons to begin with, but God is God in that God is sovereign over all things. God is God in every season and circumstance we encounter.

Therefore, our worship ought not be dependent on favorable circumstances or seasons of abundance but should be anchored in the truth that God is the source of all things, sustains all things, and the goal of all things, therefore is to be worshiped in all things, and through all things!

If you are experiencing times of joy, worship him.

If you are experiencing times of sorrow, worship him.

If you are experiencing times of plenty, worship him.

If you are experiencing times of scarcity, worship him.

Worship God anyhow!

Yahweh is worthy of our praise in all, and through all!

NAKED WE CAME FROM OUR MOTHER'S WOMB, AND NAKED SHALL WE RETURN.

There must be a realization that we start and end life with nothing material, reminds us that ultimately, we are solely reliant on God! The realization that we start and end life with nothing material, is our reminder that it is God, not our possessions that sustain us! Therefore, God, not our possessions, deserves our worship. Therefore, our worship unto God should be independent of the gain or loss of possessions. Therefore, even if you lose your possessions, you still have God, so you will still be sustained.

Now speaking of gaining or losing something, or even someone, this is an act

that resides solely within the power of God. Now in God's permissive will, God allows us to act within the bounds of His sovereignty, and we know that if God allows us to give or take away within the bounds of His sovereignty, God permits these actions to unfold according to His greater purpose and plan, but ultimately the power to give or take away is a power that only God truly has.

WHEN THE LORD GIVES AND TAKE AWAY

God gave Job 10 children. God gave Job an abundance of possessions. And in that season of his life, Job worshiped God. Job 1:1 Lets us know that He feared God and turned away from evil. Job was the priest of his home, and we would offer sacrifices unto God to cover his home, Job 1:5. In Job's season of abundance, he worshiped God. But then came a season in which Job's children were taken away from him and all of Job's possessions were taken away from him, and when his children and possessions were taken away from him, he worshiped God. When he had much, he worshiped God. When he had little, he worshiped God.

Worship

SERMON NOTES
STEPHEN L. HERROD

Once again, our worship unto God is not to be based upon the season or circumstances, but our worship unto God is to be based upon the unchanging nature of God and God's sovereignty over all aspects of life. Our worship unto God is to be based upon the truth that from him are all things, through him are all things, and to him are all things! God is God in every season you experience. God is God in every circumstance you experience. Therefore, God deserves our worship in every season or circumstance that you go through!

The message is clear: worship God anyhow! Get this: Worship is the purpose for which you were created, regardless of the season or circumstance you experience. It's a posture of life that liberates us from the burden of despair-inducing responsibilities we often unrealistically place on ourselves, especially towards other things or people, including ourselves.

In life, we often assume tasks that were never assigned by God and are not within our realm of responsibility. Simply put, worshiping God is our responsibility, expressed through our lives. However, "give and take" is not our responsibility; it's God's responsibility!

Since giving and taking away are God's responsibilities, we must not be possessive, no matter how much we love someone or something. We should be good stewards, loving others, ourselves, and caring for the possessions that have been given to us by God, but not possessive. To be possessive towards something or someone is to mock God because nothing or nobody truly belongs to us; everything belongs to God! Possessiveness often arises from a fear of losing control or a need for security, and this is why worship is so important; it reminds us that we are to love well, serve well, and do well, but we are not in control. To love well, serve well, and do well is your responsibility, but control and security is God's responsibility! To even think you are in control and can be a true source of security is a set up for failure because we don't truly have that power. However, God does, and furthermore, God is. God is, in control. God is, a strong tower that you can run to and find security. God is, a shelter in the time of storm. God is security for those who seek refuge. Nevertheless, Worship is our responsibility, while giving and taking are God's responsibilities! And as God gives or takes, our worship should be constant, because worship is our responsibility regardless of the season or circumstance!

Worship

SERMON NOTES
STEPHEN L. HERROD

When God gives, worship him.
When God takes away, worship him.
Worship God anyhow!

In closing, let me clarify what worshipping God anyhow does not entail. I hope I have effectively communicated the essence of worshipping God anyhow, so allow me to conclude by outlining what it does not involve:

To worship God anyhow does not involve denying grief.

To worship God anyhow does not entail pretending that everything is fine when it's not.

To worship God anyhow is not a justification for avoidance or deflecting difficult emotions.

To worship God anyhow does not mean disregarding pain.

To worship God anyhow does not involve neglecting oneself.
You matter to God.
Your feelings matter to God.
God is the one who gave them to you.

Do not forget that worship is what you give to God, and provisional care is what God gives to you.

Let God help you!

Let God speak to you!

Let God heal you!

Let God sanctify you!

And I tell you, do not step out of your purpose or posture of worship, because it is within that purpose and posture that God heals, saves, helps, delivers, comforts, and is experienced!

Therefore,

Worship GOD in pleasure!

Worship GOD in pain!

Worship GOD in grief!

Worship GOD in tragedy!

Worship GOD in gain!

Worship GOD in loss!

Whether surrounded by laughter or engulfed in tears, blessed be the name of the Lord!

Whether everything makes sense or life feels chaotic, blessed be the name of the Lord!

Whether you're on the mountaintop or down in the valley of the shadow of death, blessed be the name of the Lord!

Whether you're basking in blessings or facing burdens, blessed be the name of the Lord!

Worship

SERMON NOTES
STEPHEN L. HERROD



Whether you're dancing in the rain or
seeking shelter from the storm, blessed be
the name of the Lord!
Whether in abundance or scarcity, blessed be
the name of the Lord!
The Lord gives and the Lord takes away,
blessed be the name of the Lord!
The lord gives.
The lord takes away.
Blessed be the name of the Lord!
Blessed be the name of the Lord.
He's worthy to be praised! He's worthy to
be worshiped! Worship God anyhow.