

...and sin not...

Eph 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:
27 Neither give place to the devil. -----

Jesus

- If you were a Jew who lived outside Palestine and were visiting Jerusalem for the feasts you wouldn't bring your sacrifices with you. That would be too inconvenient and a bit cumbersome. The money changers in Jerusalem were there to exchange currency for those Jews who came from other countries that had their own currencies. They made a profit from doing so. Even those who sold animals for sacrifice made money. All these things were proper but were to be done beyond the temple area. Jesus was visibly angry, but did He sin?

Joh 2:15 And when He had made a scourge of small cords, He drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; 16 And said unto them that sold doves, **Take these things hence; make not My Father's house an house of merchandise.** 17 And His disciples remembered that it was written, The **zeal** of Thine house hath eaten Me up.

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* **without sin.**

Job

Job 1:10 Hast not Thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth Thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse Thee to Thy face. 12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath *is* in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

Job 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, 21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. 22 In all this Job **sinned not**, nor charged God foolishly.

Job 2:4 And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. 5 But put forth Thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse Thee to Thy face. 6 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he *is* in thine hand; but save his life. 7 So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. 8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes. 9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? (*Do you still hold to your innocence?*) curse (*Heb.1288-to kneel; by implication to bless God [as an act of adoration]; also [by euphemism] to curse [God or the king, as treason]*) God, and die. 10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? **In all this did not Job sin with his lips.**

- Job's wife in this situation saw that her husband was suffering as no one had suffered before, in her thinking. She obviously knew Job's reverence toward God and felt he would be better off giving up and put himself in God's hands. After all, Job **must** have done something to incur God's wrath, didn't he?

Job's response was that of a man full of faith in the God he knew existed. Why should we expect any different since He is the **same** God that we worship today?

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *His* purpose.

There may be times when we wonder "*why is God allowing this to happen to me after I've been so faithful*" when we should be asking "*please open my heart (mind) to see the big picture*".

Luk 17:7 But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? 8 And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? 9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. 10 So likewise ye, **when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded** you, say, We are unprofitable servants: **we have done that which was our duty to do.**

- We should consider it a compliment to be tested because first, it would show that we belong to God and not Satan and second, it would show that God considers us "testable". He even gives us the weaponry with which to fight back.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and **having done all, to stand.**

Joseph the Dreamer

Gen 37:5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told *it* his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. 6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: 7 For, behold, we *were* binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. 8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. 9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. 10 And he told *it* to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What *is* this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? 11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

- Was Joseph taunting his brothers? His nature says otherwise.

Gen 37:18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

Gen 37:24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit *was* empty, *there was* no water in it. 25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry *it* down to Egypt. 26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit *is it* if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood? 27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he *is* our brother *and* our flesh. And his brethren were content. 28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty *pieces* of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

Gen 37:36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, *and* captain of the guard.

Gen 39:2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. 3 And his master saw that the LORD *was* with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand. 4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all *that* he had he put into his hand.

- Of course Potiphar's wife had other intentions.

Gen 39:20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners *were* bound: and he was there in the prison. 21 But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison. 22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that *were* in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer *of it*.

Each time something bad happened to Joseph he turned it into something good. For years he remained in that Egyptian prison. It was his attitude, in whatever circumstance, that kept him going **and others saw it!** Whatever lot we are in, in this life, we are to be satisfied and trust that God will see us through **and others will see it!** He took lemons, added sugar and made lemonade. You have to add sweetness or it'll produce a sour result.

Mat 27:13 Then said Pilate unto Him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against Thee? 14 And He answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor **marvelled greatly**.

Luk 23:34 Then said Jesus, **Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.** And they parted His raiment, and cast lots.

Luk 23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, **Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit:** and having said thus, He gave up the ghost. 47 Now **when the centurion saw what was done**, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.

Jas 4:14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is your life?* **It is even a vapour**, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

After Joseph revealed himself to his brothers he told them...

Gen 45:5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for **God did send me** before you to preserve life. 6 For these two years *hath* the famine *been* in the land: and yet *there are* five years, in the which *there shall* neither *be* earing nor harvest. 7 And **God sent me** before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 So now *it was not you* *that* sent me hither, **but God**: and He hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

Not that we are to expect something from God in return for our faithfulness to Him in this life, we are to remain faithful to Him for the promise of what is ahead. Joseph could have blamed his misfortune on his brothers but instead he blessed God for the ability to preserve his family. He trusted in God's providence. He "sinned not".

- **Providence**- is the "*activity of God using nature and it's laws as a medium...a miracle is just the opposite...it defies natural law.*" Wayne Jackson
 1. God never providentially operates in a way that is in conflict with His nature or His revealed will.
 2. Divine providence does not negate man's freedom of will.
 3. The providential must be distinguished from the miraculous.

G4307 πρόνοια pronōia pron'-oy-ah

From **G4306**; **forethought**, that is, provident *care* or *supply*: - providence, provision.

G4306 προνοέω pronoeō pron-o-eh'-o

From **G4253** and **G3539**; to **consider in advance**, that is, *look out for beforehand* (active voice by way of *maintenance* for others; middle voice by way of *circumspection* for oneself): - provide (for).

- Sometimes frustration can cause us to do things we would normally not have done. Take for instance **Samson**.

Jdg 13:1 And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years. 2 And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name *was* Manoah; and his wife *was* barren, and bare not. 3 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou *art* barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son. 4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean *thing*: 5 For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite

unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

Thus the setting for God's deliverance from the Philistines at that time. So when Samson saw a Philistine woman he wanted to marry, his parents were against it. But...

Jdg 14:4 ... his father and his mother knew not that it *was* of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

Jdg 14:20 But Samson's wife was *given* to his companion, whom he had used as his friend.

Jdg 15:4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. **5** And when he had set the brands on fire, he let *them* go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards *and* olives.

Jdg 16:4 And it came to pass afterward, that he (*Samson*) loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name *was* Delilah. **5** And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength *lieth*, and by what *means* we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred *pieces* of silver.

Jdg 16:16 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, *so* that his soul was vexed unto death; **17** That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I *have been* a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any *other* man. **18** And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand. **19** And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him. **20** And she said, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him. **21** But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house. **22** Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

After being brought out to be mocked in front of the Philistines, Samson asked one more thing of God.

Jdg 16:28 And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray Thee, and strengthen me, I pray Thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes. **29** And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left. **30** And Samson said, Let me die

with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with *all his* might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that *were* therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than *they* which he slew in his life.

Sometimes God will take a situation where no sin is involved and use a just person, whom He knows will bring Him glory through suffering, and test (*not tempt*) them knowing their resilience in advance. Such was the case of Job and of Joseph.

1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

Jas 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man: **14** But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

Other times He will use those weaknesses that will bring even a strong man down, to do His will. The children of Israel were not to mingle among the uncircumcised Philistines. Samson's lust got him in trouble and finally brought him to his fall. In the end he "*sinned not*" by fulfilling God's will in freeing the Israelites from the oppression of the Philistines.

Our own goal should be to please God even when we are being tested **and yet not sin.**

Heb 12:3 For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. **4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.**

To the church at Smyrna Jesus said...

Rev 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: **be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.**

Jas 1:12 Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.

Have you been tested beyond what you think you can handle? Think again. You are here aren't you? God continues to help us see just how strong we really are. That's why we have each other. If you have something that's upsetting you, let us know. Maybe we can help or maybe you just want others to pray for your strength. We can do that too.

Charli Yana
June 19, 2011

www.searchfortruth.church