



SERIES: UNWAVERING FAITH

TOPIC: WHEN YOUR WORLD IS SHAKEN UP – PASTOR ALTON TRIMBLE

Sunday, September 17, 2017

ISAIAH 5:20 *“You are doomed if you call evil, good and call good evil. Destruction is certain when you call darkness, light and light, darkness; when right is consider wrong, what’s wrong is considered right; when you claim what is bitter is sweet, and what is sweet you call bitter.” (TEV)*

PSALM 82:1-5 *A psalm of Asaph. “God presides over heaven’s court, and he pronounces judgment on the judges: ‘How long will you judges hand down unjust decisions... and show partiality? Give fair judgments to the poor and orphans; uphold the rights of the oppressed and defenseless. Rescue the poor and helpless, and deliver them heartless evil people... Because the leaders are foolish and lack understanding, people are in living in dark times, and ALL THE FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIETY ARE SHAKEN TO THE CORE.”*

DANIEL 1:1-7 *“In the third year of Judah’s King Jehoiakim’s reign, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon BESIEGED Jerusalem with his armies, and GOD GAVE Nebuchadnezzar the victory. When Nebuchadnezzar returned to Babylon, he took with him the best sacred objects from the Temple of God in Jerusalem and put them on display in his pagan temple in Babylon. He also ordered that the best young men of Judah taken as captives to be brought to his palace. ‘Select only the best-looking, strongest, and smartest young men,’ he said. Make sure they are well versed in every branch of learning, are gifted with knowledge and good sense, and have the poise needed to serve in my royal palace. Teach these young men the language and literature of the Babylonian culture. They were to only eat Babylonian food and they were to be trained for a three-years. Also they were given new Babylonia names, so Daniel and his three best friends were renamed: Daniel was renamed Belteshazzar. Hananiah was renamed Shadrach. Mishael was renamed Meshach. And Azariah was renamed Abednego.”*

I. DON’T BE SURPRISED BY ADVERSITY

1 PETER 4:12 *“Dear friends, don’t be shocked or surprised when you suffer through painful tests and trials as if something strange is happening to you.” (NLT)*

- Shakeups are normal in a broken world!

JOHN 16:33 *Jesus: “In this world you WILL experience difficulties! But take heart! I have conquered the world! I’ve told you this so that in trusting me, you will be UNSHAKABLE AND ASSURED.” (Mes)*

THERE 4 SOURCES OF THE SHAKE-UPS IN YOUR LIFE:

- My Old Nature – I am my own biggest problem (Rom.7)
- The World – wants to pull you down to its level (ridicule, etc.)
- Satan – your enemy, he opposes every good thing you do

- God – Yes, God sometimes shakes up your life!

Regardless of the *source* of your shaking, God wants to use it for good.

II. LOOK FOR WAYS GOD MIGHT USE IT FOR GOOD IN MY LIFE

JEREMIAH 29:11 *God say "The plans I have for you are plans for good and not to harm you. They are plans to give you hope and a future." (NLT)*

FIVE (5) things God did in Daniel's life with the problems that he had to face.

1. SOMETIMES GOD SHAKES THINGS UP TO INSPECT ME

JEREMIAH 17:10 *"The Lord searches our hearts and examines our deepest motives so he can give to each person his right reward, according to how he has lived." (LB)*

DEUTERONOMY 8:2 *"God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you'd keep his commands." (NIV)*

- What does this problem reveal about me?

2. SOMETIMES GOD SHAKES THINGS UP TO CORRECT ME

HEBREWS 12:8-11 *"God corrects all of his children, and if he doesn't correct you, then you don't really belong to him! God corrects us for our own good, because he wants us to be holy, as he is. It is never fun to be corrected. In fact, at the time it is always painful. But if we learn to obey by being corrected, we will do right and live at peace." (CEV)*

HEBREWS 12:26-27 *"When God spoke from Mount Sinai his voice shook the earth, but now he says 'I will not only shake the earth but the heavens too.' By this he means that he will sift out everything without a solid foundation so that only the UNSHAKABLE things will be left." (LB)*

JOB 5:17 *"Consider yourself fortunate when God all-powerful chooses to correct you." (CEV)*

- What is this problem teaching me?

3. SOMETIMES GOD SHAKES THINGS UP TO DIRECT ME

PROVERBS 16:9 *"A person may plan his own journey, but the Lord directs his steps." (GW)*

PROVERBS 20:30 *"Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways." (TEV)*

PSALM 119:59 "I have thought about my life, and I've directed my feet back to your written instructions." (GW)

- What are you pretending isn't a problem in your life?
- Where is this problem leading me?

4. SOMETIMES GOD SHAKES THINGS UP TO PROTECT ME.

JOB 36:16 "God has led you away from danger, giving you freedom." (NLT)

GENESIS 50:20 "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good"

- How could this problem be protecting me?
- Sometimes God removes a harmful person from your life.
- Don't go running after them!

5. SOMETIMES GOD SHAKES THINGS UP TO PERFECT ME

1 PETER 5:10 "After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who calls you to share his eternal glory in union with Christ, will himself perfect you and give you firmness, strength, and a sure foundation." (TEV)

ROMANS 5:3-4 "We can rejoice when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us--they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it..." (LB)

- How can I grow from this problem?

III. TRUST GOD FOR WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND

PROVERBS 20:24 "Since the Lord is directing our steps, why try to understand everything that happens along the way?" (LB)

PROVERBS 3:5-6 "Trust the Lord with all your heart. Don't depend on your own understanding. Honor the Lord in everything you do and he will give you success."