

Transforming Daily
“ . . . have you considered My servant . . . ”
Job 1:8; 2:3

Though my favorite part of the book of Job is chapters 38-42, the whole proposition of the book rests upon verses eight and three of chapters one and two, respectively. Divine retribution is really the theme of the book of Job (believed by many scholars to be the oldest book in the Bible). Basically the lesson for Job and all believers is that God is Holy, Righteous, and Just. He shows no favor to, nor is He a respecter of, any person on, for, or from their own merits. God's chooses to do as it pleases Him. When God shows favor (such as the case with Mary the mother of Jesus) it is for His purposes and good pleasure, not according to our pleading, begging, claiming, bargaining or suffering for or with our own purposes and pleasures in mind. God is awesome!

When God asks Satan here in these verses “have you considered My servant Job” He isn't delivering Job to Satan, rather God in His infinite wisdom and knowledge knows that Satan has been “eyeing” Job and is basically wanting Satan to confess his motives. It's only after Satan confesses his intent with disrespect, irreverence, and disdain for God and His creation (not to mention His grace, mercy, lovingkindness, patience, etc. toward man), which includes Job, that God permits Satan to test Job. It's clear from the text why Satan was “eyeing” Job in the first place. It was Job's commitment and service to God, and his responsible acts toward his family, friends, and perhaps even his foes that got Satan's attention (1:9; 2:4).

As a player (not a very good one) and later as a football coach, I was given instruction and gave instruction to keep an eye on the most aggressive and committed player(s). You could tell who they were. They were the ones who played with abandonment. They were devoted to the coach and the team with equal compassion. They were the ones that strategies were often formed around. Strong side, weak side, fastest, quickest, hardest hitting, perseverance, stamina, able to adapt, intelligent, etc., all of these characteristics were taken into consideration on both sides of the ball regarding how plays were run. The players weren't taken into consideration for what they said they could or would do, but after the fact based on what they did or were doing.

Regarding spiritual warfare, how would your life be categorized? Are you a “player” to be considered formidable by the enemy? Is there enough about your life for the enemy to be “eyeing” you? What is your level of commitment, devotion, and compassion for God and the things of God? Do you live the spiritual disciplines with abandonment (prayer, Bible reading, Scripture memory, soul winning, general service and ministry)? Are you devoted to God and His local church (born again, baptized, membership)? Does your life bear the signs that God has said or might say to the enemy, “have you considered My servant?”