

**Transforming Daily**  
*“... a day ...”*  
*Job 1:13*

There is an old saying, “What a difference a day makes.” That statement can be both positive and negative. Someone is sick with a 24 hour bug, “What a difference a day makes.” On the other hand, there is Job 1:13-22 where in one day, according to verse 13, Job lost his servants, live stalk, other personal holdings and more importantly his children. “What a difference a day makes,” takes on a whole new meaning in light of that calamity.

What happens to someone on the outside always reveals something about what’s going on inside that individual. The more intense the pressure on the outside, the deeper from within the individual does the response need to come. For instance, in a crowded subway someone accidentally bumps into them, “O, excuse me,” is probably sufficient. A late night parking lot where no one else is around, but a wicked perpetrator who purposefully and viciously attacks them and violates them is another story. “O, excuse me,” doesn’t cut it when one who has experienced something that heinous. That individual (and those related to them) is fighting off thoughts of revenge, anger, bitterness, guilt, shame, fear, anxiety, distrust and depression, just to name a few emotions. They will never forget that day, so “What a difference a day makes,” means something totally different to them than the one who is recovering from a 24 hour bug. That person has to reach much deeper into who they are and what they stand for than the one who has a cursory brush with a stranger in a crowded atmosphere.

Did Job deserve what he experienced? Did his servants? Did his live stalk? Did his children deserve to die? According to Scripture, yes, they deserved to die. Everyone, including you and me, deserves to die because of our sin (general, not necessarily specific, in nature). Does that sound harsh? Yes, it sounds harsh, but does it sound any harsher than mankind, created in the image of God, rebelling against Him and rejecting Him to the point that the only source of redemption for mankind and all of creation is through the shed blood of His only begotten Son?

Someone might argue that they really never did anything that bad to deserve death. Many people argue that same argument, but the Word of God says that it is about the sin nature of man. Even after being born again, Christians still rebel against and at times defy the Word of God. Therefore, divine retribution is justified.

I believe that everyone is going into, in the midst of, or just coming out from a faith crisis, and sometimes multiple faith crises at the same time. The levels of their intensity vary from circumstance to circumstance, from person to person, and day to day. Nevertheless, some kind of pressure accompanies these faith crises. How are you at handling the faith crises of your life? Do you trust Christ? Do you lean on your own understanding to direct and guide you through the circumstances, or on God’s Word? Have you drawn a line in the sand that marks how far you’re willing to go with Christian compassion and obedience to God regarding the level of intensity under which you experience these crises? A personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ, spiritual discipline, and faithful preparation for service to God and each other are the appropriate influences to see us through our entire life as well as the faith crises of a day.