

## II. A QUESTION THAT ARISES FROM THE SETTING OF THE TEXT:

### Message # 1 *HOW MUCH SUFFERING CAN ONE TAKE?*

#### A. Introduction

1. The nature of our problems and the estimate of suffering
2. The Biblical account: chapters 1-2, 42
  - a. The family of Job *7 sons 3 daughters*
  - b. The plot *Job*
  - c. The reality of his predicament
  - d. And the eventual question: Why? and then How?

#### B. Discussion

##### 1. The events:

- a. The loss of property /
- b. The loss of servants /
- c. The loss of children /
- d. The loss of health *2*
- e. The loss of his wife *2*
- f. The loss of friends (1) *2*

##### 2. What does Job have now?

- a. Some material things
- b. Some family
- c. Some personal servants
- d. Some metaphysical assurances and hope
- e. An acquaintance with God

##### 3. But the question is plain: *How much suffering can one take?*

- a. As much as one's trust in God will allow! 1:20-21
- b. As much as a comparative view will allow! 1:20 *2*
- c. As much as one knows it is not one's own fault! *2*

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#### C. How much? Conclusion

A lot more than many of us are willing to admit. (Read Hebrews 12) In every hard situation we need to show trust, fidelity, and, then, just sweat it out! He will not allow you to be tested beyond that which you are able. 1 Corinthians 10:13 as well as 2 Corinthians 12:9