

## For Personal Reflection

- If you are in a Job 14 season right now, how do you find yourself responding?
  
- Whenever you are in a trial, what do you tend to do to get out from under the trial? Remember the benefits of “remaining under”.
  
- Once you acknowledge how you are trying to get out from under the trial, pause and pray. Ask God to finish doing His work in you, that you may ‘come forth as gold.’ Read Psalm 42 and meditate on the hope we have in God.

## Shattered

*Looking at Suffering through the Eyes of Job*

### ***Don't Waste Your Pain***

**Job 14; James 1:2-4**

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"God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains; it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."  
CS Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*

"A trial is a painful circumstance allowed by God to change my conduct and my character." James MacDonald, *When Life is Hard*, pg. 26.

#### **I. Pain is Reality- Job 1:1-7**

**John 16:33** “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world.”

#### **II. Pain Never Leaves You the Same (v. 8-13)**

**James 1:2-4** “Count it all joy, my brothers when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness, and let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing”. (NASB- endurance)

**Steadfastness- *hupomeno- meno- remain hupo- under- to remain under***

James MacDonald in his book, *When Life is Hard*, (pg. 61-62) gives a list of 4 things we would rather do than remain under.

1. **“I want to complain”** – We may stay under the pressure, but people are gonna hear about it.
2. **“I want to lash out”**- We take it out on the people around us.
3. **“I want to bail”**- We tell ourselves, I am so out of here. I didn’t sign up for this.
4. **“I fold under the pressure”**- Those responding this way say to God, crush me, God!

**I Peter 4:12** “Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.”

### III. **Pain Can Leave you simultaneously with questions and a growing faith (v. 14-22)**

**Philippians 3:10-11** “That I may know him and the power of his resurrection and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead”.

**Mark 9:14-29**

**Job 23:10** “And when he has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”

-Could it be that the thing I am struggling with the most, God wants to bless me with?

**I Peter 1:7** “So that the tested genuineness of your faith - more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire - may be found to result in the praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ”

**I Samuel 30:6** “And David encouraged (*strengthened*) himself in the Lord”.

**Psalm 42:3** “My tears have been my food day and night, while they say continually to me, “Where is your God”. – My tears nourish me!

**Psalm 42:5** “Why are you downcast oh my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me, Hope in God for I shall again praise him, my salvation, and my God.”