

SEEING LIFE FROM GOD'S POINT OF VIEW

Dear Friends:

Not too long ago I was standing around during the visitation time at a funeral home waiting to begin the service. The deceased was my long, long-time pastor friend, Dan Kopp. He died from cancer after a 12-month battle. Two weeks prior to his death the garage of his house caught fire, totaled everything in the garage and smoke damage in the house was extensive. Over the years I have known Dan, he was in the top three all-time most positive people I know. What many people did not know was how often Dan suffered physically. He battled asthma since he was a young boy. In his late teens and 20's it was severe. Dan also had both upper and lower back problems. He had major surgery on his upper vertebrae, they went through his mouth for that one. His leg would get so numb at times he couldn't walk, his migraines were so painful at times he needed absolute quiet and pitch-dark rooms. Just prior to going up to start the funeral service Dan's brother-in-law said something very insightful to me: "Most people just read Job, Dan and Jane (Dan's wife) lived Job's life."

Many of you reading this know someone who has lived a Job-like life. I have written before about my friend, Curt, in Indiana. His 17-year-old daughter died in a car accident, Curt was unemployed for the three years during the Great Recession, their house burned down totally, his wife now awaits a heart transplant. Curt (and family) live the life of Job. When heartaches and heartbreaks enter our life, we often don't know why and sometimes we may never know. We see things from our perspective – we only see things from "ground level". God, on the other hand, has the view from above – the whole existence of all there is.

If we only had God's view, what a difference I think it would make. Job only had the ground level view but he had a God-trusting faith. In Job 13:15a we hear Job's words of faith: "Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him." How's your hope been lately? Would a little less of the ground level view and little more of God's level view help? I think it would. May God help you see life more from his view.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Midge Gathers, Cathy Cooley (heart transplant), Church Revival