

# ***REFLECTIONS***

January 20, 2008

**Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."**

*Job 1:8*

## **Thief in the Night**

Denver's words still ring in his ears. "Mr. Ron, I got somethin to tell you. [Miss Debbie] is becomin precious to God." Denver paused for a moment, Ron recalls, and a serious look crossed over his face. Then he continued his prophecy for Debbie, Ron's God fearing wife, "When you is precious to God, you become important to Satan. Watch your back, Mr. Ron. The thief comes in the night."

The compelling story of Denver and Ron is told in the book entitled *Same Kind of Different as Me*<sup>1</sup>. It is the story of how a successful art dealer befriended a homeless man and both of their lives were transformed. Denver grew up in slave-like conditions and cannot read or write; yet his prophecy warned of events that would change the lives of them all. "When you is precious to God, you become important to Satan."

So it was also in the story of Job. God said to Satan, "There is no one on earth like him." And with those words Job became important to Satan. Just look at what happened. Job had a large prosperous family that he loved and prayed for regularly. He was blameless, upright and God fearing. But those were the very qualities that painted the target for Satan. And Job had no idea that his love of God would bring such challenges.

But like a thief in the night, Satan took away Job's children and wiped away all of his wealth. And when his faith remained unshaken, Satan struck again to take away Job's good health. He was precious to God; and that made Job important to Satan.

Don is important to Satan too. He is the beloved pastor of a local church who was struck by the thief in the night when a routine surgical procedure led to the discovery of his terminal illness. It was such a shock to hear of the disease; but it is not shocking to believe that Don is precious to God. And that made him important to Satan.

Like a thief in the night, Satan strikes those that are important to him. But the people that are important to Satan—

Well, they are most precious to God.

*"You are the light of the world,"*

*Richard* +

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