

JOB'S PLEADING WITH GOD! **(Scripture. Job 10:1-3)**

Scripture Reading

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Job 10: 1-3.

1" My soul loathes my life;

I will give full vent to my complaint, I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

2I will say to God, 'Do not condemn me; Show me why You contend with me.

3Does it seem good to You that You should oppress, That You should despise the work of Your hands, and smile on the counsel of the wicked?

Introduction:

We all run into conflict with our children, or parents. Sometimes, it turns out into a shouting match. Somebody gets very upset, says something very harsh, and then he or she slams the bedroom door. Job comes to that level of intensity with God. It is never a good idea to lose our cool, no matter how wrong the other person is. Let us see how Job pleads to God, and then finally he tells God to leave him alone. Very emotionally charged chapter, and let me start with a warning: don't follow Job's behavior in this chapter!

Job 10: 1,2.

1" My soul loathes my life;

I will give full vent to my complaint, I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

2I will say to God, 'Do not condemn me; Show me why You contend with me.

We came across this feeling of Job in previous chapters. He hated his life, and he wanted to die. But there was one thought that was really bothering Job. Why is it that God is contending with him, and punishing him drastically! He was begging now, do not condemn me and reject me.

Job. 10:3 Does it seem good to You that You should oppress, That You should despise the work of Your hands, and smile on the counsel of the wicked?

Job starts using sharp words now. Why does it seem good for God to oppress? I would read it as oppressing the righteous. What pleasure God gets by crushing the righteous? He seems to crush the righteous, but He seems to smile on the wicked? Is that so? A farfetched accusation! Jesus says, God sends the rain and sun shine to both the wicked and the righteous. God is not partial! Job accuses God that He despises His own works? He seems to make beautiful pots with clay, but He breaks it for no apparent reason. God has every right to throw away His works, but He does not. He may do that to the wicked, but not to the righteous. He cherishes His children as the pupil of His eyes! We cannot judge God by the outward circumstances!

Job 10:4-7.

4Do You have eyes of flesh? Or do You see as man sees?

5Are Your days like the days of a mortal man? Are Your years like the days of a mighty man,

6That You should seek for my iniquity and search out my sin,

7Although You know that I am not wicked, and there is no one who can deliver from Your hand?

Job wonders if God is like a human coming after His enemies ruthlessly. He is indeed like a mighty man, and no one could escape from His wrath. Job continues to maintain his innocence, and yet he blames God that He is pursuing Him ruthlessly!

Job 10:8,9.

8Your hands have made me and fashioned me, an intricate unity; Yet You would destroy me.

9Remember, I pray, that You have made me like clay. and will You turn me into dust again?

Job again uses the same logic!

You have made me like clay, yet would you destroy me?

You have made me as an intricate, delicate work of art. Would you still powder me and turn me into dust?

Paul's answer to this question is, yes, He can because He is the potter, and we are the clay, and He can demonstrate His sovereignty over us anytime!

Romans 9:19-21

19You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?"

20On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it?

21Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?

Job. 10: 10-13.

10Did You not pour me out like milk, and curdle me like cheese,

11Clothe me with skin and flesh, and knit me together with bones and sinews?

12You have granted me life and favor, and Your care has preserved my spirit.

13And these things You have hidden in Your heart; I know that this was with You:

Here Job describes how he was formed in his mother's womb, and how God had carefully planned it and hidden in His heart. Milk and cheese refers to egg white, and the yoke. From liquid egg and sperm to solid substance of bones, sinews, flesh, and skin! Very picturesque, vivid language, we are indeed fearfully, and wonderfully made! What a marvelous creation by our Heavenly Father! The bottom line! God is in control since the beginning of our lives!

Job. 10:14-16

14If I sin, then You mark me, And will not acquit me of my iniquity.

15If I am wicked, woe to me; Even if I am righteous, I cannot lift up my head. I am full of disgrace; See my misery!

16If my head is exalted, You hunt me like a fierce lion, And again You show Yourself awesome against me.

Job pleads with God, if I sin, then God could target him and destroy him! If Job was indeed wicked, then he deserved all the terrible things that happened to him! Job claims, even if he is righteous, he cannot lift up his head because of the shameful sufferings he was going through. Job admits that he is filled with disgrace. He argues for the right procedure. He challenges God, if my head is exalted, then you hunt me down like a lion going after its prey! For Job, God is not showing His awesome power in doing good things to him, but seem to show off His mighty power destroying Job, and tearing him apart?

Job. 10:17-19.

17You renew Your witnesses against me, And increase Your indignation toward me; Changes and war are ever with me. 18Why then have You brought me out of the womb? Oh, that I had perished and no eye had seen me!

19I would have been as though I had not been. I would have been carried from the womb to the grave.

Job cries out that God keeps increasing His indignation toward him. His pain and suffering is not at all decreasing, but increasing! Every suffering is more like proof or witness that God is against him? His suffering is so grave, Job cries out, why was I brought out of the womb at all? I wish I had been born as a still born baby, and carried to the grave straight!

Job. 10:20-22.

20Are not my days few? Cease! Leave me alone, that I may take a little comfort,

21Before I go to the place from which I shall not return, To the land of darkness and the shadow of death,

22A land as dark as darkness itself, As the shadow of death, without any order, Where even the light is like darkness.” ’

Now Job loses his cool completely. He loses his mind totally and screams at God, Cease, leave me alone, so that I may have a brief break from my suffering before I die!

This statement may shock most of us! How could Job talk like this to God! It should not surprise us at all. We, as parents, may have heard from our children! There are times, our own children may have screamed at us! Stop, leave me alone!

Job also feels like an abandoned child! Even the most Holy one, whom he trusted very much, has come out for an all-out assault against him, and he could not take it anymore. Job was basically barking at the wrong person!

Now he wants just a brief time of comfort before death! How we take our time of tranquility, peace, and joy in our life! How much we should be thankful for that nice peace, comfort, and tranquility! How much we should be rejoicing for giving us that precious peace that surpassed all understanding!

Job realized that he was not very far from his time of death, and he paints death as the land of darkness where even the light there is all darkness! Job already started seeing the shadow of death. Had he only come across psalm 23, he would have remembered the verse, yea, I walk through the valley of shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for you are with me. Thy rod and staff will comfort me!

Job thought that God was so far away. He thought that God abandoned Him when he needed Him most. But the truth of the matter is God is always standing so close to us when we walk through the fiery fire. He is actually carrying us in His bosom when we are going through excruciating suffering. He has indeed prepared the way for us even through death.

Job looked at death as point of no return, the end of his life. But had he known Jesus, he would have realized that it is nothing but the beginning of a beautiful spiritual journey to his heavenly home. Just like the cocoon is broken and the young butterfly sees a brand new beautiful world, we will break out of the cocoon of this world, and be with the lord forever. Where He is there we will be also! Because He lives, we shall face tomorrow, and we will be in the bosom of the Lord!

Conclusion:

Be honest with your feelings when you talk, but let your words be measured and guarded when you are angry.

Open up. Don't suppress your feelings and stay angry.

Rebuke those who accuse you falsely, but forgive them! They may not know what they do.

God is not a sadist having pleasure in torturing His own children. He is indeed a God of love!

We are fearfully and wonderfully made! Our God has a clear plan and purpose in our lives! Don't jump the gun and try to go your own way.

God is the potter, and we are the clay. Let Him mold us according to His will and purpose! Be still, and yield!

Never tell God, leave me alone! We really need Him every moment of our life!

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