

Job's Faith

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[Job 19:25-27] For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, 27 Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

The Book of Job is regarded as the oldest book of the bible. The land of Uz, where Job lived, is somewhere in the Middle East, either today's Iran, south Syria, Arabia, or Jordan. The friends of Job who accused him of wrongdoing were all believers of Jehovah God. Therefore, true worship must have been existing in the area where Job and his friends lived at least. We do not read about Job in Abraham's life story. Therefore, Job could have lived before Abraham.

In the first chapter of Job, we read about Satan's role in perusing the various parts of the world and governing the world. The time was before his open rebellion against God. Psalm 82 describes how God judged the ruling angels, whom God had appointed to rule the nations, because of their unrighteous governance actions. Satan must have been a chief angel with the responsibility of supervising such ruling angels.

[Job 1: 7-8] And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So, Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 8 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

God had high regard for Job's faith and uprightness. And He asked Satan if he had regarded Job. Satan, however, criticized Job saying that his faithfulness was due to God's blessing and protection. In response, God granted Satan the power to remove all blessings and protections from Job except his life to test if he would persist in his truthfulness. Satan was the chief accuser of God's people rather than a helper in times of need as the angels are supposed to be [Revelation 12:10]. In conclusion, Job held onto his persistent faith and never wavered his faith through the very painful experience of total loss and physical torment. As a result, God restored Job's status and blessed him more than before as a reward for his faithfulness.

What kind of faith did Job have? Job believed that His Redeemer Christ is living and that He would stand in glory in the world in the last days. He believed that he would rise from a dead body into a resurrected body and see the Lord with his own eyes. Isn't this amazing? He had a clear revelation about the resurrection and the last days of the Lord's kingdom. Do you have such spiritual insight and faith about the last days of the world as Job did?

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Also, Job spoke clearly that the evil people will be sustained until the day of judgment when God will bring all unbelievers and evil souls to life to face His wrath.

[Job 21:30] For the wicked are reserved for the day of doom; They shall be brought out on the day of wrath.

Job also knew what true wisdom is although he lived hundreds of years before Solomon wrote the Proverbs. In summary, Job was a faithful servant of God who had a clear spiritual insight of God's truth and unwavering faith.

[Job 28:28] And to man, He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding.'

Job knew that his misfortune and tormenting pains were not due to his wrongdoing but that he was undergoing a test that God allowed. And he desired to come forth from this difficult test with untainted pure faith like gold.

[Job 23:10] But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.

Yet, the experience was so painful that he prayed God would end his life. Who among us would not utter words of complaint and protest to God in such a painful and tormenting experience? When God appeared to him and spoke to him in the end, Job did not try to make excuses or justify himself. He humbled himself to repent in ashes and dust.

[Job 42:5-6] I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. 6 Therefore I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes."

As the Lord's coming draws near, the world becomes darker and darker, the evil will show its true nature more overtly, and the Satan-serving wicked people will take hold of the powers of the nations and oppress the children of God. In this ever-worsening dark world, are we holding onto the true faith as Job did?

[Hebrews 10:37-39] For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

Are you going through a difficult time, so difficult that you are tempted to complain and denounce God? Are you tempted to forsake God's truth and join the mainstream world's current? Now is the time to look up in anticipation of the Lord's coming in the clouds – when the angel sounds the trumpet, we shall all rise to join Him in the clouds and enter the Son's wedding feast as His bride. That is the living hope of all true Christians.

"The just shall live by faith." Let us stand firm and not waver from the truth of God nor step back to the wickedness of God's enemy. Seek the help and strength of the Holy Spirit and persevere with pure, untainted faith like Job until the Lord returns in glory and power. Amen.

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