

Job 42 Restoration, Revival and Reward

Eccl 7:8 *Better is the end of a thing than the beginning*

So ends the story of Job. In the evening....comes the light !! Isa 60:1-2

I. Job repents

v 1 - 6

v 1 *Job answered the LORD ... not by contradiction, but by submission*

This is the right way for us to answer the call of God. James 4:7

v 2 *Job acknowledges God's power (omnipotence) and knowledge (omniscience)*

True repentance brings *acknowledging of the truth.* 2 Tim 2:25

v 3 *Job repeats God's opening charge (38:2) and admits that he was guilty :*

i.e. 'I am the man' ...'I have been foolish'

'In the midst of my affliction...*I uttered (things) that I understood not*'

spir: We often pass judgment on God's workings, yet the Bible says :

God's judgments are a great deep Psalm 36:6

We often see what God is doing by the events occurring around us, but we neither know why he does it, what he is aiming at, nor how he will 'wind it up'. The reason we quarrel with Providence is 'we don't understand'. We must be content to be in the dark until the *mystery of God* is finished.

Paul told Timothy : *godliness with contentment is great gain.* 1 Timothy 6:6

v 4 *I beseech... I demand* Job petitions God ...with boldness Hebrews 4:16

v 5 *I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear*

spir: We need a *hearing ear* to learn of God, Romans 10:17

Faithful hearing purifies the heart and enables one to *see God*, Matt 5:8

doct: One day the faithful will actually see the words of faith Psalm 48:8

v 6 In his repentance, Job had an eye toward himself again, 40:4

Job's afflictions brought him *down among the ashes*, 2:8

But his vision of God's glory and majesty (ch 38-41) brought him lower.

spir: True repentance makes one not just sorry for their sin,

but also sorry for their *sinful nature*, **Luke 5:8**

We are not just sorry for our wrong actions, but more so for our wrong attitudes.

doct: The Jews afflictions in the tribulation will humble them in the end, Zech 12:10-14
 Now that Job has humbled himself and repented, God can honor him, 1 Pet 5:6.

In the judgment : Job is magnified, whereas the others are mortified.

We are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth, Romans 2:2.

God will reprove and rebuke Job's friends first.

II. God reproves Job's friends

v 7 - 9

God addresses Eliphaz because he was the eldest, he was the 'ringleader', and he spoke the most. But they all misrepresented God's person and God's nature; and that *kindled God's wrath*, v 7. Job's friends said affliction is proof of God's wrath and prosperity is a mark of God's favour. They taught 'retribution theology' and that belittles and maligns God's nature.

spir: The world's religions have a wrong understanding of God. And that angers God!

Their false teachers make merchandise of the souls of the simple. They compass sea and land to make proselytes teaching damnable heresies. [Mt 23:15, 2 Pet 2:1-3]

They should keep their mouths shut and find another line of work; because *the Lord will bring upon them sudden destruction.*

Job was in the right, his friends were in the wrong; yet he was in pain and they were at ease. Proof that we cannot *judge according to appearance*, John 7:24, Eccl 9:1.

God calls Job *my servant* four times in two verses. It's as if God said: "Though Job has suffered great loss, he is as dear to me as when he was in prosperity. He is still *my servant*, even in his broken condition." God twice says : "*Job spoke of me the thing that is right*", v 7 & 8. Thou, Job had spoken some things amiss during his time of pain, God still remembers and commends him for what he spoke right.

spir: Though we struggle day by day and often speak amiss; one day God will reward us for each and every time we *built upon his foundation* : which is *the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ*, 1 Cor 3:10-14.

doctr: Though the Jews have mistaken the new testament in their confusion, they will be remembered; for *unto them were committed the oracles of God* (Rom 3:2), and *the receiving of them shall be life from the dead* (Rom 11:15).

The devil had undertaken to prove Job a hypocrite (1:11, 2:5), and he used Job's three friends to charge Job a wicked man. But when God says "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant*" (Mt 25:21), it matters little who says otherwise.

Furthermore, God tells Eliphaz : *my servant Job shall pray for you*, v 8. This is a great honour that God bestows upon true penitents. They have the double blessing of petitioning for themselves and making intercession for others. Luke 6:28

spir : Like Job, true believers are part of a *royal priesthood*. 1 Peter 2:9

III. God rewards Job

v 10 - 17

v 10 *the Lord turned the captivity of Job,*

Satan' malice began Job's troubles in a matter of a few days (chapters 1-2). God's mercy *turned Job's captivity...in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*, 1 Cor 15:52. His broken body was healed, suddenly...*his flesh became fresher than a child's, and he returned to the days of his youth*, 33:25. The disquieting thoughts of his mind were now at ease and calm. The terrors of his soul fled and were replaced by the comforting presence of God.

doctr: The *blessed and holy first resurrection* (Rev 20:6) will renew and regenerate all believers, Jew and Gentile, like the miracle at *the gate of the Temple which is called Beautiful ...for indeed a notable miracle shall be done that is manifest to all, and they cannot deny it*. Acts 4:2-16

when he prayed for his friends ... not just for himself.

Though Job was in the right when he was disputing with his friends; God did not bless him. God cannot and will not bless arguing and strife, no matter which side is right. God is better served and pleased with warm devotions than with hot disputes.

spir: *...if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses*. Matthew 6:14-15

doctr: The Jews will finally pray for their enemies at the close of the tribulation; at which point, the Lord will return and fully restore them from captivity.

The chapter closes with God blessing Job and restoring his family, fortune and friends.

Lessons to be learned from *The Book of Job* :

(1) historical - Job was a real man who experienced the grand canyon of deep trials in a single lifetime. While, at times, he lost his grip; he held fast his last little finger of faith and hope : *for I know that my redeemer liveth...whom I shall see for myself,* Job 19:25-27.

And in the end, his *God* came through and fulfilled his faith with a full restoration and reward, Job 42:10-17.

(2) doctrinal - At the hands of the devil and his antichrist, the Jews will experience the *great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And then ... they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory . Then shall the King say unto them ... Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,* Matthew 24:21,22, 30 & 25:34

(3) spiritual - Believers will *endure persecutions and tribulations* orchestrated by *spiritual wickedness in high places* working through *principalities, powers and the rulers of darkness in this world.* 2 Thes 1:4, Eph 6:12 But one day, *in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye ... the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout ... Come up hither ... and we shall be caught together in the clouds, to meet the Lord: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.* 1 Thes 4:16-18, Rev 4:1

(4) Our companion in the trials of our faith is *patience*. As the Apostle James wrote : *Behold, we count them happy which **endure**. Ye have heard of the **patience of Job**, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.* James 5:11

Job's example shows us that we cannot live for today. Our *faith is the evidence of things hoped for*. The world lives for the 'hear and now'; we live for the hereafter.

(5) In our times of trouble we need more than theology; Job's friends had 'theology'. Excellent theology can't help in the 'day of trouble'.

Furthermore, it's not just the Bible or the word of God that we need.

In the end, it's *the **God** of the word* that we need. We need **God !!**

As Jesus told Martha in her day of trouble : *I am the resurrection and the life !*

John 11:25

references :

1. *Matthew Henry' Commentary*, vol 3, 1991, Hendrickson publ.
2. *Common Man's Reference Bible*, 2004, Pure Words publ.