

Job 19:13-29

- [13] “He has put my brothers far from me,
and those who knew me are wholly estranged from me.
- [14] My relatives have failed me,
my close friends have forgotten me.
- [15] The guests in my house and my maidservants count me as a stranger;
I have become a foreigner in their eyes.
- [16] I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer;
I must plead with him with my mouth for mercy.
- [17] My breath is strange to my wife,
and I am a stench to the children of my own mother.
- [18] Even young children despise me;
when I rise they talk against me.
- [19] All my intimate friends abhor me,
and those whom I loved have turned against me.
- [20] My bones stick to my skin and to my flesh,
and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.
- [21] Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, O you my friends,
for the hand of God has touched me!
- [22] Why do you, like God, pursue me?
Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?
- [23] “Oh that my words were written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
- [24] Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!
- [25] For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.
- [26] And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,
- [27] whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!
- [28] If you say, ‘How we will pursue him!’
and, ‘The root of the matter is found in him,’
- [29] be afraid of the sword,
for wrath brings the punishment of the sword,
that you may know there is a judgment.”

INTRO: Where does the strength of the saints come from? How will they stand in the day of adversity when their own families will not stand with them? Job 19 reminds us that the strength of the saints comes from Christ. And if you are going to endure, you must lift your eyes above your circumstances and fix them upon Christ.

CONTEXT: The book of Job stands to answer the question, “What is God. What is He like. What are the heights of His wisdom. What are the lengths of His works. What are the depths of His power to keep His chosen ones?”

CONTENT: 1. (v13-22) Job takes an honest inventory of his weakness. **2.** (v23-29) Job looks upon the mightiness of his Redeemer and finds his feet to stand.

DOCTRINE: *that though the saints be disowned by everyone, their Redeemer will not disown them, and they shall stand as more than conquerors.*

I. THE SAINTS MAY BE DISOWNED BY EVERYONE

- [13] “He has put my **brothers** far from me,
and **those who knew me** are wholly estranged from me.
- [14] My **relatives** have failed me,
my **close friends** have forgotten me.

[15] The **guests** in my house and my **maidservants** count me as a stranger;
 I have become a foreigner in their eyes.
 [16] I call to my **servant**, but he gives me no answer;
 I must plead with him with my mouth for mercy.
 [17] My breath is strange to my **wife**,
 and I am a stench to **the children** of my own mother.
 [18] Even **young children** despise me;
 when I rise they talk against me.
 [19] All my **intimate friends** abhor me,
 and **those whom I loved** have turned against me.

[20] My **bones** stick to my skin and to my flesh,
 and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.
 [21] **Have mercy on me**, have mercy on me, O you my friends,
 for the hand of God has touched me!
 [22] **Why** do you, like God, pursue me?
 Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?

- **OBSERVE:** Just how low a saint may be brought in the hands of His merciful God.
- **CONTEXT:** God has already owned job as “blameless and upright” in His sight because of His faith. (Job 1:8)
- **CONTEXT:** Job has already declared, “Though he slay me, I will hope in him” (Job 13:15)

Q. So why is Job brought so low?

- **CHILDREN:** Do you remember the story about Gideon? The Israelites were overpowered by the Midianites for seven years. So God raised up Gideon to deliver them. Gideon assembled an army of 22,000 men. But God said it was too many... God delights to show His enemies that it is His own mighty hand that delivers his people.
- **COMFORT:** Beloved, who no longer stands at your side? Whatever helps He denies will only serve to ascribe more glory to His mighty hand.
- Better to stand alone with your Redeemer, than to have all the helps of Egypt at your side.

REPEAT: the saints may be disowned by everyone, yet...

II. THE SAINTS WILL STAND AS MORE THAN CONQUERERS

Q. How will lowly saints stand thus, as more than conquerors?

I) THE SAINTS WILL STAND BECAUSE GOD PRESERVES THEIR GRACIOUS WORDS IN HIS BOOK

[23] “Oh that my words were written!
 Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
 [24] Oh that with an iron pen and lead
 they were engraved in the rock forever!

- **OBSERVE:** **Q.** Do you see the irony? Job is saying, “this would bring me comfort...”
- **INSTRUCTION:** God does inscribe the word’s of men in His book.
- **Matthew 12:36** I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,

Q. Why then would Job be comforted by this? **A.** Because he knows his God.

- **Isaiah 43:25** “I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.
- **CHILDREN:** Every careless word you have ever spoken is permanently written in God’s book. But if your faith is in Christ Jesus, He will present that book to His Father with every careless word blotted out by His own blood, so that all that remains are those gracious words which evidence the Holy Spirit’s work within you. And the Father will take great delight in this work.

REPEAT: Beloved, you will stand because God carefully preserves only your gracious words in His book.

II) THE SAINTS WILL STAND BECAUSE THEIR REDEEMER EVER LIVES FOR THEM

EXPLAIN: Job, the afflicted servant, here begins to rise as more than a conqueror.

[25] For I know that my Redeemer lives,
 and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

- **DEFINE:** Kinsman redeemer. (Leviticus. Ruth. Psalms. Proverbs. Isaiah. Jeremiah. Acts. Job.)

• **Q. 25. Who is the Redeemer of God’s elect?**

A. The only Redeemer of God’s elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was and continues to be God and man, in two distinct natures and one person, forever.

Option 1, Incarnation: In the last days, his Redeemer will assume his nature and stand upon the earth to make purchase. and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

Option 2, Crucifixion: In the last days, his Redeemer will be lifted up above the earth to make payment. and at the last he will stand [rise up] upon the earth.

Option 3, Resurrection: In the last days, his Redeemer will arise to stand again on the earth, evidencing that He has satisfied the payment. and at the last he will [rise above] the earth.

Option 4, Ascension: In the last days, his Redeemer will rise above the earth to heaven, where He will ever live to make intercession for Job. and at the last he will [rise above] the earth.

Option 5, Judgment: On the last day, his Redeemer will stand on the dust. and at the last he will stand upon the earth [dust].

- I do not know which Job intends, but all are true, and all are glorious!
- **DIRECTION: Q. Do you want to stand as more as more than a conqueror?** Then you must know this Redeemer.
 1. Search out in the Scriptures all that is revealed about Him.
 2. Read this portion of the catechism that opens up all of the offices that Christ executes as our Redeemer.
 3. Read Thomas Watson and Thomas Boston's sermons upon this portion of the catechism.
 4. Read John Flavel's "A Fountain of Life" where he preaches 42 sermon's from various passages which open up all that Christ does for us as Prophet, Priest, and King.
- **CHILDREN:** You do not have the strength to stand in the trials that God will bring into your lives. But if your trust is in Christ Jesus, then you can say with Job, "my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will make me to stand with Him on this earth."

III) THE SAINTS WILL STAND BECAUSE JESUS WILL RAISE THEIR BODIES FROM THE DUST

EXPLAIN: Job, the afflicted conquerer is piling truth upon truth, to rise higher and higher above his tormentors.

[26] And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,
[27] whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!

- **EXPLAIN:** Job is speaking of his bodily resurrection. and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
- Beloved, it is more sure that your body will rise in the resurrection, than from your bed tomorrow.
- **1 John 3:2** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.
- **CHILDREN:** Job was confident that he would see the Lord with His eyes. Touch your eyes. Job has not seen him with his eyes yet. Trust in Christ Jesus, and at the resurrection you and Job will see Jesus together with your eyes at the very same time.

IV) THE SAINTS WILL STAND BECAUSE CHRIST WILL AVENGE THE WRONGS DONE TO HIS BODY

Explain: Job, who so recently plead for mercy from his tormentors, now stands at full posture to warn *them* of the judgement to come.

[28] If you say, 'How we will pursue him!'
and, 'The root of the matter is found in him,'
[29] be afraid of the sword,
for wrath brings the punishment of the sword,
that you may know there is a judgment."

- **WARNING:** To those who would deny comfort to the member's of Christ's body. Christ will avenge the wrong's done to His people, as done directly against Him Himself.
- [29] be afraid of the sword, for wrath brings the punishment of the sword, that you may know there is a judgment."

REPEAT: The saints will stand because Christ Himself will avenge the wrongs done to the members of His body.

III. USES

INSTRUCTION: It is far better to stand alone with the Redeemer than to have the whole world at your side.

EXHORTATION: Thank God for the earthly comforts that you do have. Look around you!

WARNING: If you cannot say "my Redeemer lives" then all of your earthly comforts will fail you.

COMFORT: Consider the Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief.

DIRECTION: Christ endured for your inheritance. Beloved, you can endure for His glory!

Romans 8:31-39

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

EXHORTATION: Christ will conquer. First, He must conquer the hearts of His sheep. He beckons, “Come.” Come to Him in faith today! All who do will have this heritage.