

Job 19:23-27

23 "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book!

Job 19:23-27

They were engraved in the rock forever!

Job 19:23-27

25"As for me,
I know that my Redeemer lives,
And at the last
He will take His stand on the earth.

Job 19:23-27

26 "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God;

Job 19:23-27

27 Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!

Introduction:

If in conversation someone mentions the name "Job" most people's thoughts quickly go to the many troubles Job experienced and endured.

Our hope today is to focus our thoughts beyond the troubles to see the beauty of God's work in Job's life.

Through these many sorrows, toils and pains Job experienced the grace of God which led to His experience of peace, confidence, and hope

We are not seeking to diminish the intensity of Job's trials nor do we seek to deny that each of us face difficulties. These difficulties often cause us to agree with Job that even in the midst of great belief often we feel that our heart faints within us.(vs, 27b)

Job indeed did experience a multitude of trials. Job knew God, loved God, served God, obeyed God, and prayed for and led His family to follow God's ways. Job gave thanks to God for all of His blessings. Job did what was right in God's eyes. Job lived rightly in all of his relationships with others.

Even with all of this being true, Job still experienced great trials of grief, loss and suffering. The book of Job is clear that God did not cause the suffering but did allow it and did use it to mold and shape Job's life. God also allowed it so that today we have this model of trust which can encourage us. Today people all around us can relate to Job's experience.

Many have experienced the loss of friends and family which cause great grief. Many have experienced the loss of livelihood, property and home. Many struggle daily with physical affliction as did Job. Many are surrounded by people who falsely accuse, ridicule beliefs, and speak words of hurt and discouragement as Job experienced from his friends.

Like Job, you and I and all around us need someone to hold onto so we may experience peace, confidence and hope. That someone is Jesus Christ.

Job's story is much more than a story of trials and suffering. It is a story of a man's trust in God in the midst of all the devil and the world could unleash upon him. It is the story of how a man's trust in God enabled him to endure and experience peace, confidence and hope on the journey.

From this story we are encouraged with the truth that we too can trust God and experience God as Job did. This is possible for us because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Job saw this truth prophetically. We know this truth historically. The truth of Jesus resurrection is our source of peace, confidence and hope.

Job was able to respond to his trials and suffering with trust in God because Job had a personal relationship with God. Job knew God as "My Redeemer". The word "My" indicates a personal intimate knowledge born out of experience.

Job describes God as his "Redeemer".
This word communicates several truths
Job had learned about God through
his relationship with God.

Redeemer means - the one who delivers me from troubles.

To deliver does not always mean immediate removal of troubles.

To be given the ability to endure and learn from the experiences is a form of deliverance.

Ultimately, one day Job knew
God would physically remove
all of his troubles.
Job knew that this life was not
all there was to his existence.
He had a resurrection to eternal life
in his future.

Redeemer means - also to pay the price to remove from slavery.

Job knew that his acceptance by God was not based upon how he lived.

It was based upon God's grace and Job's trust which brought Job into relationship with God.

Therefore when troubles came after Job had lived a good life Job was not confused.

He knew His Redeemer lived.

He had peace and confidence and hope because his redemption was not about his behavior.

Our relationship with God is also a gift of grace received by us when we simply trust in Jesus.
Our trust in Jesus death and resurrection brings His forgiveness and makes us His children.

When we believe Jesus becomes our Redeemer.

We know Him as the one who paid the price to free us from our slavery to sin and its consequences.

Redeemer also means advocate. Job knew God was his defender. God would speak for Job's faith. Job trusted God to declare the truth to others but ultimately Job knew that when his life on earth was done God would speak for him and claim him as His child.

Having a redeemer that lives forever enables you to face physical death in this life with peace, confidence and hope.

Job was able to endure and break free from the <u>feeling</u> of hopelessness, the <u>urge</u> to despair, and the <u>temptation</u> of bitterness because of his trust in God.

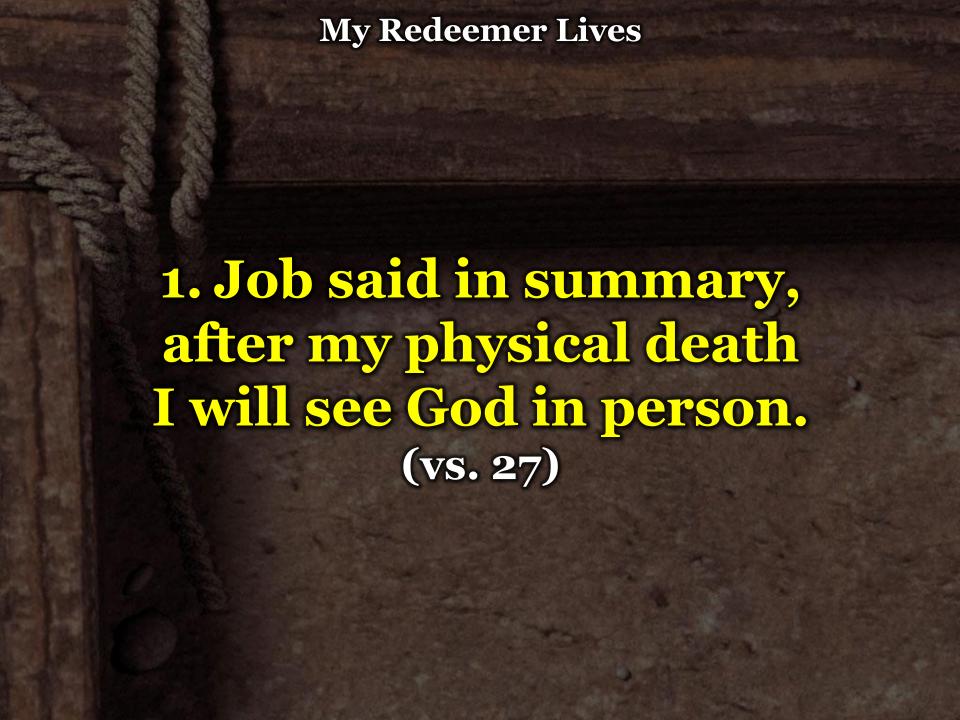
Job's journey of trust in God was not easy but it was possible.

Our journey of trust in God through this life is also not easy.

It is however possible because Jesus is alive and lives in us.

Circumstances cannot remove our relationship with God through Jesus Christ therefore we too can live lives of peace, confidence, and hope no matter what the storms of this life bring our way.

Job shared, in this passage, 3 statements of belief from which we see the concepts of peace, confidence and hope.



Job trusted that his eternal existence following physical death would be in God's presence.

He walked in this life in God's presence and therefore had peace concerning his experience of life once this part was completed.

Job had peace with God by faith and walked in the peace of God concerning both his present circumstances and future.
We too can live in peace knowing that through Jesus we have the destiny of eternal life in God's presence.

Romans 5:8-10

8 But God demonstrates
His own love toward us,
in that while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8-10

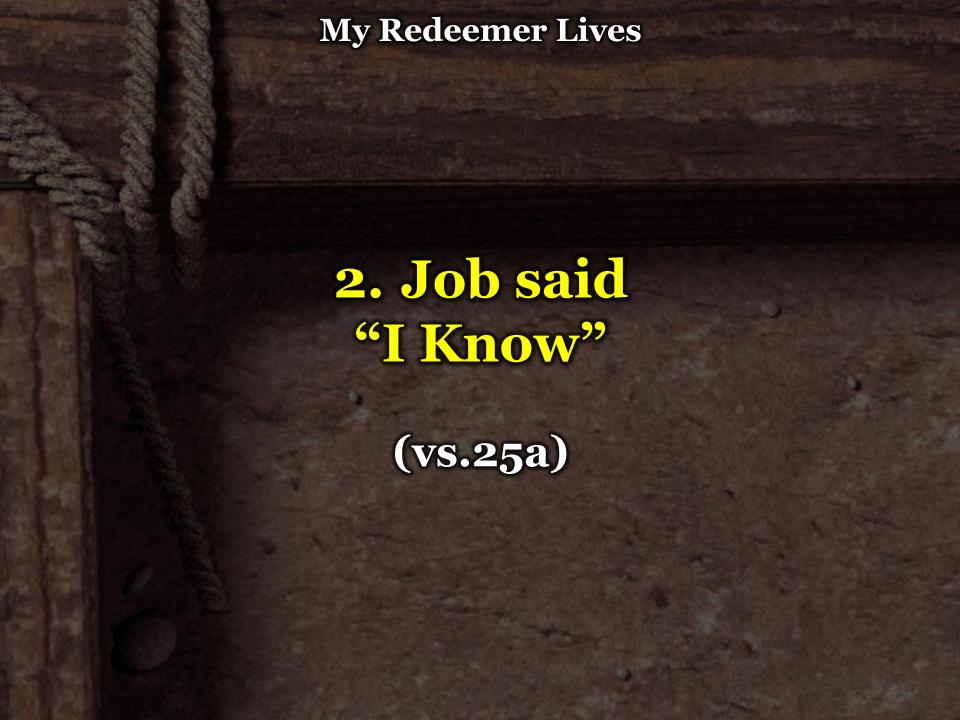
9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

Romans 5:8-10

10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Hebrews 7:25

25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.



Job expressed a wish that he could state what he believed in permanent ways such as writing or engraving on rock. (vs. 23-24) He wanted to communicate that he knew the truth about God. When everyone around him doubted him and doubted what he believed about God he stood with confidence in the truth and said: "I know"!

Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ we can stand in confidence and say that we know the truth about God. The truth about God is revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus alone can we know God personally!

Acts 4:8-12

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people,

Acts 4:8-12

o if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well

Acts 4:8-12

10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead —by this name this man s tands here before you in good health.

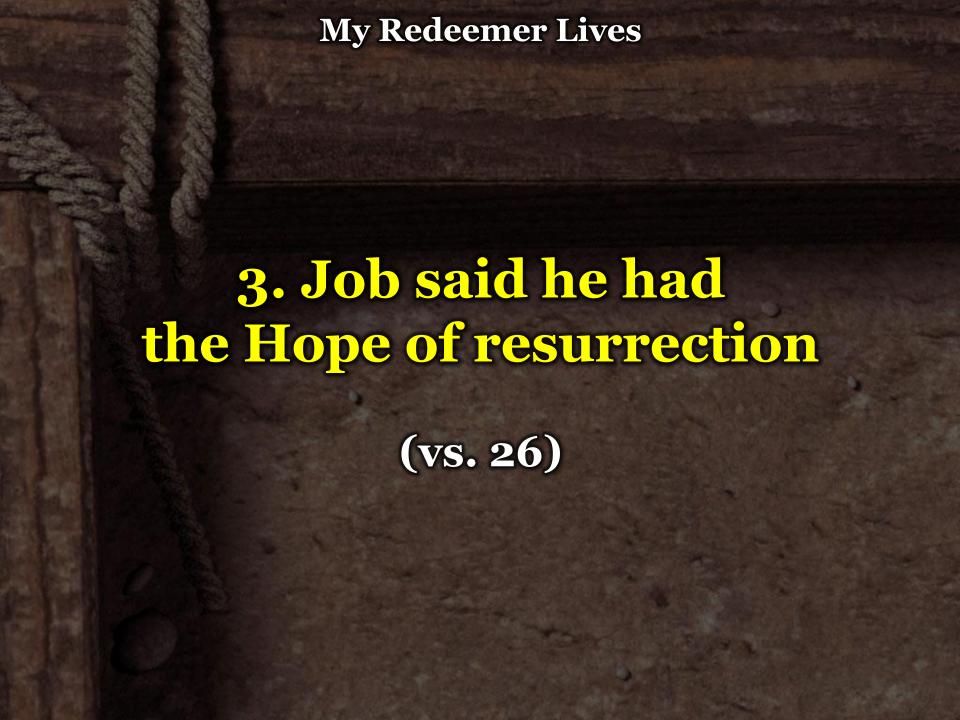
Acts 4:8-12

11 He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, BUT WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF corner stone.

Acts 4:8-12

12 And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

When many around us grow more and more convinced that all truth is relative we are able to stand in confidence that truth is absolute and revealed in Jesus.



Job trusted in the truth of God's promise of resurrection. Job's word spoke prophetically concerning Jesus resurrection and His triumphant return to earth physically at the end of time as we now experience it.

Job's trust in God specifically led him to the hope of his own physical resurrection. Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead physically we who trust in Jesus have the hope of being raised one day by Jesus Christ.

We will live eternally in His presence in bodies free from sin, sorrow, and suffering. We will serve His Kingdom and His Righteousness for all of eternity.

1 Corinthians 6:14

14 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

Closing Thoughts and Questions

How are you doing with the trials and afflictions you experience and see all around you?

Are you enduring and growing in your trust in God or moving towards greater despair and hopelessness?

Trusting in Jesus is the only source of lasting peace, confidence, and hope.

Closing Thoughts and Questions

Do you know with confidence that you have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ?

Is God your Redeemer?

Closing Thoughts and Questions

Do you desire peace with God?

Do you need the peace of God that goes beyond what you can understand?

Do you need an anchor of hope?

All of these are found in Jesus.

Closing Thoughts and Questions

No path is easy.

Yet this "Way" is the only way to truly know God, walk in His peace, His confidence, and His Hope.

Choose to trust Jesus today!

Closing Thoughts and Questions

Because He lives I can face tomorrow (confidence).

Because He lives all fear is gone (peace).

Because I know He holds the future (hope)

And life is worth the living (purpose)

Just because He lives!

