

Easter Message 2016

My Redeemer Lives

Job 19:23-27

My Redeemer Lives

Job 19:23-27

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

Job 19:23-27

**24 “That with an iron stylus and lead
They were engraved
in the rock forever!**

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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.**

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Job 19:23-27

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

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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.

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

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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)

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.**

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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.

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

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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.**

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

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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.

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**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.**

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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.

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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.**

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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.

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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.

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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.**

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

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

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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.

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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.

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

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**1. Job said in summary,
after my physical death
I will see God in person.
(vs. 27)**

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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.

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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.

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Romans 5:8-10

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

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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.

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2. Job said “I Know”

(vs.25a)

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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”!

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**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!**

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Acts 4:8-12

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

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Acts 4:8-12

**9 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.**

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Acts 4:8-12

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

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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.”**

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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.

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**3. Job said he had
the Hope of resurrection**

(vs. 26)

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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.**

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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.

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**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.

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Closing Thoughts and Questions

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

Is God your Redeemer?

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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.

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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!

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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!**

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