THE BOOK OF JOB JOB 21

INTRODUCTION:

1. Bildad and Zophar both presented to Job a portrait of the wicked. (Job 18.21; 20.29)

2. In chapter 21, Job counters their words by painting a portrait of his own showing their words to be false. (Job 21.34)

3. Job pleads with his friends to comfort him by listening to what he has to say. (Job 21.1-3; cf. 15.11)

I. JOB COMPLAINS

- A. Job complains about the wicked.
 - 1. JOB 21.4-6: "Why should I not be impatient?"
 - 2. JOB 21.7,8: The wicked live long. (cf. Ps. 73.12)
 - 3. JOB 21.9,13: The wicked are not punished. (Job 9.34)
 - 4. JOB 21.14-16: The wicked reject God.
- B. WARNING: Do not distance yourself from God in times of trouble. (Mal. 3.13-15; 1 Tim. 4.8).

II. JOB CORRECTS

- A. Job corrects the philosophy of his friends.
 - 1. JOB 21.17: The wicked rarely suffer. (Job 18.21; 20.29)
 - 2. **JOB 21.19-21:** God does not punish the children for the sins of the parents. (cf. Job 5.4)
 - 3. JOB 21.23-26: The wicked and righteous both die.
- B. WARNING: Do not invest all your time and effort into this life. (Heb. 9.27; Matt. 6.19-21)

III. JOB CONDEMNS

- A. Job accuses his friends of falsehood.
 - 1. **JOB 21.27,28:** Their philosophies have led them to false conclusions about Job.
 - 2. JOB 21.29,30: Their philosophies do not reflect reality.
 - 3. JOB 21.21-34: It was not their job to condemn.
- B. WARNING: Do not take the role of judge. (Rom. 12.19-21)

CONCLUSION: Our beliefs must be rooted in scripture.

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"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" -Mark 16.15

May 12, 2024

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: 9:00 AM SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM

"KEEP YOURSELF PURE"

In today's culture, the thought of keeping oneself pure seems antiquated. It seems to be a belief belonging to an archaic and less enlightened people that has no place in our modern society. The world does not consider purity as desirable and even avoids it. How strange it seems to those of the world when a couple does not move in together nor engage in sexual relations before marriage. How odd it is to our coworkers when we do not share with them in a drink after hours. Peter commented on this very thing when he wrote, "*in regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you*" (1 Pet. 4.4).

It is sad that the world feels the need to devalue purity and ridicule those who strive for it. But that mindset is expected of the world. Even more tragic is when members of the church ignore the plea for purity and minimize the seriousness of sin. When we make light of the tragedy of worldliness, we also minimize the seriousness of the sacrifice of Christ who suffered beyond description to save and purify us (Titus 2.14).

It is no wonder evangelistic efforts seem to fail. The world does not see Christians as any different from themselves. We call on the worldly to repent, but repent from what? Are not some of us living the same lifestyle? (Ezek. 36.20-23). Indeed, keeping yourself pure will benefit both you and those around you. CLP

THE INFLUENCE OF A GOOD MOTHER LUKE 2:40

INTRODUCTION:

1. Multiple times in Matthew 2, Jesus is described as a "*young Child*." (Matt. 2.7-9,11,13,14,19,21)

2. Jesus went from a young Child to a pre-teen who "became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom..." (Luke 2.39-43)

3. Someone was involved in His life as a young Child that helped Him grow into the Man He would become. Who helped Him?

- a) Joseph is only mentioned in the beginning of His life.
- b) Much of the raising of Jesus was done by His mother.

4. Mary gives us an example of the influence of a good mother.

I. A GOOD MOTHER BELIEVES IN HER CHILD

- A. Jesus and His disciples attended a wedding. (John 2.1-4)
 - 1. Mary came to her Son with a problem because she believed He was able to solve it. (John 2.4)
 - 2. JOHN 2.5: "His mother said to the servants, 'Whatever He says to you, do it.""
- B. Do you believe in your children? Do they know that you believe in them?

II. A GOOD MOTHER GRIEVES WITH HER CHILD

- A. Mary was standing near her Son while He was on the cross.
 - 1. Though it was heart-wrenching to see her Son being put to death, Mary "*stood by the cross*" (John 19.25,26).
 - 2. Watching her Son suffer was like a sword piercing through her soul. (Luke 2.34,35)
 - 3. From that point, Jesus placed His mother into the loving care of His closest friend, John. (John 19.27)
- B. Have you shed tears for your children? Mothers are there to comfort their children when they hurt.

III. A GOOD MOTHER LETS HER CHILDREN LEAVE

- A. After Jesus was resurrected, He ascended back to the Father.
 - 1. ACTS 1.9-13: The disciples watched Jesus ascend and then returned back to Jerusalem.
 - 2. ACTS 1.14: The mother of Jesus did not attend when Jesus departed. She was content to let Him go.
- B. The hardest thing for a mother to do is to let go. (Gen. 2.24)

CONCLUSION: Every mother is an influence on her children.

TAKE THE NAME OF JESUS WITH YOU

It was an emotional scene. Three men were fastened to a wooden cross by nails driven into their hands and feet. But only two of them deserved the punishment of death. By his own admission, one of the thieves said to the other, "*And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong*" (Luke 23.41). The One who is Immanuel, God with us, was condemned to die though He did nothing wrong. The One whose name means "Savior" chose not to save Himself from death, though He could (Luke 23.35,36). Centuries before, the prophet Isaiah gave Jesus this description: "*Man of sorrows*" (Isa. 53.3).

Why was Jesus a Man of sorrows? We might point to several different reasons why Jesus felt sorrow in His life. His family rejected Him (John 7.5). The Jews rejected Him (Matt. 13.57). The sinful condition of the world stirred up emotions (Matt. 9.36). However, Isaiah attached the sorrow of Jesus to a specific event. The prophet referred to His crucifixion. In fact, the night before His crucifixion, Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane and told His disciples, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death" (Mark 14.34). The Holy Spirit reflected on that night when He tells us that Jesus "offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears" (Heb. 5.7).

Consider the deep sorrows that Jesus must have felt as He hung on the cross. His disciples had abandoned Him (Matt. 26.56). Peter had denied knowing Him (Matt. 27.69ff). The religious leaders mocked Him and physically assaulted Him (Matt. 27.30). In His emotional trauma, He felt as though God had abandoned Him (Matt. 27.46). But one of the most heartbreaking moments of His crucifixion was when He said goodbye to His mother.

It is unfathomable that His own mother who raised Him, and educated Him was now present to watch Him die. But she did not have to see His death. Jesus sent her away. The apostle John tells us that the moment Jesus saw him with His mother, Jesus said to Mary, *"Woman, behold your son!"* He then turned to John and said, *"Behold, your mother!"* It says that *"from that hour that disciple took her to his own home"* (John 19.26,27). Jesus knew that He could no longer care for His mother. So He placed her into the care of His closest disciple.

We sing the song, "Man of sorrows, what a name!" It is hard to imagine a more sorrowful moment than when Jesus said goodbye to His mother before He died. If your mother is still with you, cherish her. If she has already entered into eternity, cherish her memory. If you do, you are taking the name of Jesus, the Man of sorrows, with you. CLP