

Series: Stand Fast In the Lord

WHEN BY HIS LIGHT I WALKED THROUGH DARKNESS JOB 29

Text: Job 29:3

Job 29:3

³ When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;

Introduction:

Job 29 gives us a detailed glimpse of the life of Job before he was afflicted by Satan.

Picture what has been going on in his life.

For a number of months, Job has been pounded by Satan with one affliction after another.

His children are dead.

He has been robbed of his possessions and his business.

Friends and servants have been murdered by enemies.

His family and friends have forsaken him because of his disease and because they believe he is being chastened by God for wickedness in his life.

It is in this setting that Job's mind begins to wander and ponder about his past.

He begins to think about the good old days before he lost everything.

The days of our past were much different than the days we live in now. Some feel we have progressed in America.

In some areas, especially in medicine we have progressed, but in reality, the wickedness and sinfulness that we have tolerated have caused our nation to digress.

We are not going forward as a country. We are going backwards.

Financially, our nation is digging its grave as our leaders continue to get us deeper into debt, printing money out of thin air and spending like there was no tomorrow.

We are 22 trillion dollars in debt.

Job was pondering the good old days in his own life.

Those days were now gone, but what he reveals about his past gives us a glimpse of what his life was like.

What he did in the good old days is an example for us to follow and should remind us what we enjoy right now in the Lord.

We continue by considering another thing that Job reflected on:

Notice:

Sermon Content:

1. HIS PRECIOUS KIDS (vs. 5)

Job 29:5

⁵ When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;

Job missed his children.

Those times that he had fellowshiped and prayed for his children was precious to Job.

Any parent that has lost a child in death can understand the pain that Job was feeling.

No parent should have to bury their children, but it happens every day.

Why does the Lord allow this happen?

I don't know, but I know His reasons are good and wise.

Everything that God does has a reason to it. He is GOD and His way is best, no matter what we think or what we deserve.

Our responsibility is to trust in His will.

Realize that He can provide grace and comfort when such sorrow burdens your heart.

Enjoy you children they grow up fast.

Treasure the days of your children and ask God to help you to not make mistakes or do something that will hurt them.

Do your best to give them a spiritual foundation.

Don't let your kids grow up being a stranger to the Lord.

Not only did Job Reflect on the Protection, Prosperity of God, and his Precious Fellowship with God and Precious Children but he also reflected on the:

2. HIS POSITION IN THE COMMUNITY

Job 29:7-11

⁷ When I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street! ⁸ The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the aged arose, and stood up. ⁹ The princes refrained talking, and laid their hand on their mouth. ¹⁰ The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth.

¹¹ When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me:

Job 29:20-25

²⁰ My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand. ²¹ Unto me men gave ear, and waited, and kept silence at my counsel. ²² After my words they spake not again; and my speech dropped upon them.

²³ And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain. ²⁴ If I laughed on them, they believed it not; and the light of my countenance they cast not down. ²⁵ I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.

We read of the great respect that people had for Job.

Understand:

Respect is earned.

People are always watching you and me.

We should represent the Lord like Job did.

The hand of God was on Job because Job loved and flowed the Lord in his life.

No wonder the Lord Himself asked Satan in chapter one, "Have you considered MY servant Job?"

Job was so godly and so close to the Lord that He had God's attention for sure.

The challenge we glean from this passage concerns our testimony or example.

As Christians, people should be able to see Jesus Christ in our lives.

Our actions should be characterized by grace, holiness, wisdom, and love.

Our example should point others to our Lord.

Note: 2 Corinthians 3:2 and 1 Timothy 4:12

2 Corinthians 3:2

² Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

1 Timothy 4:12

¹² Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Job missed the position he once enjoyed.

Understand:

Our main concern is not the popularity or prestige of people but rather pleasing God.

We should be more concerned about what He thinks about our lives than what men think.

Galatians 1:10

¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Acts 4:19-20

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. ²⁰ For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 5:29

²⁹ Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

1 Thessalonians 2:4

⁴ But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.

Ephesians 6:6

⁶ Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

Colossians 3:22

²² Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

James 4:4

⁴ Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Not only did Job Reflect on the Protection, Prosperity of God, and his Precious Fellowship with God and Precious Children and His Position in the Community but he also reflected on the:

3. THE PROSPECT FOR THE FUTURE

Job 29:18

¹⁸ Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand.

Job presumed that he would live a long life and that his days would be as the grains of the sand. When he died, he believed he would die in his home surrounded by his family.

But understand there are no guarantees.

James 4:14

¹⁴ Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

You do not know when death will come your way. That is why it is so important that you put your faith in Jesus Christ for eternal life. When you put your faith in Christ, you'll enjoy everlasting life.

Close:

Are we doing what we can to point our children to the Lord?

Are we concerning ourselves in pleasing the Lord?

What is your prospect for the future?