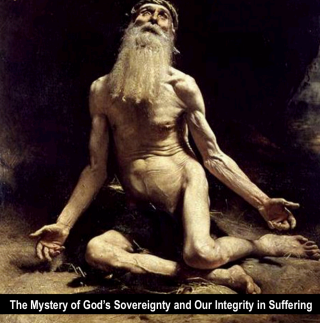


persevere
the GOSPEL according to JOB



Hope Rises from the Ashes

Lesson 13 • Passages from Job

Life Seems Hopeless on the Ash Heap of Despair

What Ash Heap of Despair Do You Fear Most?

- A **financial** one—the loss of **wealth** and all your material possessions?
- A **physical** one—the loss of **health** in terms of physical, emotional, mental, and social pain?
- A **marital** one—the loss of **support** of your most treasured family member?
- A **relational** one—the loss of **sympathy** from your most trusted friends?

Hope Rises from the Ashes of Despair

Hope Rises When...

1. You Have a MEDIATOR Who STANDS Between You and God! (9:32-35)

"He is not a mere mortal like me that I might answer him, that we might confront each other in court. If only there were someone to mediate between us, someone to bring us together, someone to remove God's rod from me, so that his terror would frighten me no more. Then I would speak up without fear of him, but as it now stands with me, I cannot." Job 9:32-35 NIV

The Mediator We Need in Our Despair Is...

- 1) A Mediator that is **both divine and human**.
- 2) A Mediator that can **bring people and God together**.
- 3) A Mediator that is able to **reconcile us with God**.
- 4) A Mediator that will put an end to **our fear of God's holy judgment**.
- 5) A Mediator that would make it possible for us **to come before God with bold confidence!**

Hope rises from the ashes when we realize that such a MEDIATOR really does exist – in the Person of Jesus!

"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time." Timothy 2:3-5

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:14-16

2. You Have an INTERCESSOR Who PLEADS to God for You Like a Friend! (16:18-21)

"O earth, do not cover my blood, nor let there be a secret place for my cry. Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high. My intercessor is my friend as my eyes pour out tears to God; and he contends with God on behalf of man as a man pleads for his friend." Job 16:18-21 NET

The Intercessor We Need in Our Despair Is...

- 1) An Intercessor who will **plead our case** before God.
- 2) An Intercessor who is a **witness that testifies** on our behalf before the judge.
- 3) An Intercessor who is a **defender that speaks up** for us when others accuse us.
- 4) An Intercessor who is a **friend that stands with us** when others are against us.
- 5) An Intercessor who is **so divine that he can intercede for us with God** like we do hear on earth.

Hope rises from the ashes when we realize that such an INTERCESSOR really does exist – in the Person of Jesus!

"Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" Romans 8: 33-35

"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." Hebrews 7:25

3. You Have a GUARANTOR Who Will PAY Your Debt! (17:1-3)

My spirit is broken, my days are extinguished, The grave is ready for me. Surely mockers are with me, And my eye gazes on their provocation. Lay down, now, a pledge for me with Yourself; Who is there that will be my guarantor?" Job 17:1-3 NAS

The Guarantor We Need in Our Despair Is...

- 1) A Guarantor who will say our debt is paid **before we die**.
- 2) A Guarantor who will say our debt is paid **before others** who claim we still must pay for our sin.
- 3) A Guarantor who will say our debt is paid **before God Himself**.

Hope rises from the ashes when we realize that such a GUARANTOR really does exist – in the Person of Jesus!

"Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit." John 19:30

*"When you were dead in your transgressions...He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, **14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.**" Colossians 2:13*

4. You Have a REDEEMER Who Will RAISE You from the Dead! (19:25-27)

"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!" Job 19:25-27 NIV

The Redeemer We Need in Our Despair Is...

- 1) A Redeemer who is **delivering!**
- 2) A Redeemer who is **living!**
- 3) A Redeemer who is **ruling!**
- 4) A Redeemer who is **life-giving** and **death-reversing!**
- 5) A Redeemer who is **loving!**
- 6) A Redeemer who is **worth longing for, looking for, and living for!**
- 7) A Redeemer who is **God Himself!**

Hope rises from the ashes when we realize that such a REDEEMER really does exist – in the Person of Jesus!

*"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that **He might redeem** those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons." Galatians 4:4-5*

*"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace **through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus**; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. **This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed**; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness **at the present time**, so that **He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**" Romans 3:23-26*

Hope Rises from the Ash Heap of Despair, When You Have Jesus!

*Jesus Died on the Ash Heap of the Cross as God's Sinless, Suffering Servant for Our Sins, Our Sickness, and Our Suffering.
Then Jesus Rose from the Dead to Be All that God Requires, All that We Need, and So Much More!*

In Our Despair Jesus Is...

Our **MEDIATOR** Who Reconciles Us to God! • Our **INTERCESSOR** Who Pleads Our Case before God!
Our **GUARANTOR** Who Pays Our Debt to God! • Our **REDEEMER** Who Gives Us New Life and Will Raise Us from the Dead for God!
Our **SAVIOR** and **VICTOR** and **RULER** Who Calls Us to Himself and Makes All Things Work Together
for God's Glory and Our Good!