

God will Perfect that which Concerns Me.

I wanted to get back to Mathew 5, but I thought I'd discuss some of the many doubts we have about God's working in our lives. One of my dear friends had asked me a few days ago, a question we all often have in our minds, "Should we keep on 'claiming' our need in Jesus name or can we just rest in His Promise?"

When there is a big need in our life which is quite obvious to others around us, all our spiritual friends around us pitch in with how to deal it. If we don't have a child, if we aren't married, if we don't have a good job, if we don't have enough upto the mark blessing, then we are bombarded on all sides saying, "claim it in the name of the Lord," and when that delays they immediately coo, "Oh you haven't prayed enough," and after sometime they decide, "you must have committed some secret sin, so it's God's judgement, that you deserve."

Does this sound familiar? This morning I was reading Job again and what struck me was his friends said exactly the same things to Job and even worse.

Behold, happy *is* the man whom God corrects;
Therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty.- Eliphaz. Job 5, 17

Job 11,4-6

There are many more vile accusations of the friends of Job, against him. The reason behind this accusation is nobody not even Job know the real reason behind his grave misfortune.

Actually the whole action has been planned and set forth in motion in heaven. Job is unaware of the Heavenly Bet which the Lord Almighty has placed on him.

His friends didn't know either. But human as we are, we need to know a reason of why this happened to Job. Even Job is wondering, why these things have happened to him.

Job's friends believe that God will punish only those who are evil. And so now that Job is suffering they conclude that Job must have committed secret sins.

The unshakeable premise of Job's friends is this

Remember now, who ever perished being innocent?

Or where were the upright ever cut off?

⁸ Even as I have seen,
Those who plow iniquity
And sow trouble reap the same.
⁹ By the blast of God they perish,
And by the breath of His anger they are consumed. Job 4 : 7-9

The strong belief of Job's friends as God as the Judge is not wrong, but it does not apply to the situation here.

The problem of Job is not his hidden sin, but it is the consequence of God waging a bet on his beloved Job to the face of satan.

No one below knows this heavenly chess. So they try to explain with what they already know.

Most of us do the same. When someone dies, we try to see some generational curse or some hidden sin or some thing which we can explain and feel satisfied.

But the reality is God is Almighty, He is Sovereign, He can have His own reasons for what He allows in our lives.

God allowed so much pain in the life of Job because God Himself had an unwavering faith of Job's trust on God. Isn't this amazing?

The Lord Almighty wagers on man, a mortal.

But Job also does not know why he suffers so. It seems so bizarre. As far as he can remember he has never committed an offence. He has sacrificed on behalf of his children.

But the beauty of Job's character is that though he suffers hugely, he still believes God in all of that.

Surely even now my witness *is* in heaven,
And my evidence *is* on high.
²⁰ My friends scorn me;
My eyes pour out *tears* to God. Job, 16:19-20

He does not understand God's working in his life, but at the same time God whispers a revelation in the depth of his soul. He suffers because of God's hand and that one day he will see his God.

Read this.

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends,
For the hand of God has struck me!
²² Why do you persecute me as God *does*,
And are not satisfied with my flesh?
²³ "Oh, that my words were written!
Oh, that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴ That they were engraved on a rock
With an iron pen and lead, forever!

²⁵ **For I know *that* my Redeemer lives,
And He shall stand at last on the earth;**
²⁶ **And after my skin is destroyed, *this I know*,**
That in my flesh I shall see God,
²⁷ **Whom I shall see for myself,
And my eyes shall behold, and not another
How my heart yearns within me! . Job 19 : 21-27**

So my dear friend whatever peculiar problem you are going through, take it to the Lord. So many around you will have as many solutions, accusations, condemnations but only God has the answer, the revelation.

The thorn of your life, the pain of your life, is surely from the Lord but He alone has the reasons for it. It is His Sovereign act to turn the loss, pain into something beautiful and precious.

Hind's feet on High Places(Hannah Hurnard) is a beautiful allegorical story of a crippled girl called Much Afraid who is destined to go to High Places. The going becomes very tough and at each spot she collects a stone to remind her of the pain. At one point she wants to abandon the climb and to throw away all the remembrance stones. But by the supernatural grace of God she reaches the top. All her pain is washed away and when she draws all the rough stones of remembrance she is surprised to find all of them as glittering diamonds.

God has the times of your life in His hands.

His Time may not correspond to the times of the world, but His time is always right for you and for me.

God may never give reasons for the things that happen in your life. Read the last part of Job, God answers Job, but He does not reveal the bet, but He opens the eyes of Job to His grandeur and Sovereignty and it is then Job

cries out “ Lord , I am vile What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth.” Job 40, 3

So my dear friend whatever loss or pain or delay you may suffer take it to the Lord in prayer. The Lord Himself will give you a revelation. May be it is His will to form you, to mold you or may be He wants to test the quality of your faith as He did it with Job.

Let us also like Job, believe firmly that our God can do all things and that no plan of His will be thwarted.

This is the most important, whatever you understand or not understand in your life does not matter. But what matters is that God has a plan for me, He has a plan for you and this plan will surely come to pass.

God bless. Keep trusting Him always.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXU8esgxthc>

Though the fig tree may not blossom,
Nor fruit be on the vines;
Though the labor of the olive may fail,
And the fields yield no food;
Though the flock may be cut off from the fold,
And there be no herd in the stalls—
¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will joy in the God of my salvation.
¹⁹ The LORD God^[LX] is my strength;
He will make my feet like deer's feet,
And He will make me walk on my high hills.

To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments. Habakkuk 3 : 17-19

It will be worth it all when we see Jesus.