

## ....My Wound is Incurable without Transgression ~

### **Job 34:1 – 35:16**

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~ Our Spiritual Safari rolls on ever so slowly in the Book of Job. I hope this collection of reports has been enlightening and edifying to you. We're taking a long time dragging out this study of pride and contriteness, ad nausea, and intentionally; because it is a teaching that is totally ignored and is virtually non-existent in church doctrine today. Well, this safari, as most of you know, seeks to find the Lord Jesus Christ on every page of Scripture; and this is where we get closest to Him! It's easy to lose sight of Him in the Old Testament, isn't it?

Most people's lives are based on pure emotion and sensation. They try to reason from emotional experience to self-truth — as opposed to reasoning from truth to experience — and it never ends well for them. Well, the Word of God tells us we must begin with Truth, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God – Who is Truth! That means the Word of God, friends. When we finally begin with Him, we cannot go wrong in our experience; but not the other way around. There is no other way, either, by the way. Many people in church work – even ministry – have no earthly idea what the Bible really has to say....

### **XXXIV**

<sup>1</sup> *Furthermore Elihu answered and said,*

<sup>2</sup> *Hear my words, O ye wise men; and give ear unto me, ye that have knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup> *For the ear trieth words, as the mouth tasteth meat.*

<sup>4</sup> *Let us choose to us judgment: let us know among ourselves what is good.*

***<sup>5</sup> For Job hath said, I am righteous: and God hath taken away my judgment.***

***<sup>6</sup> Should I lie against my right? my wound is incurable without transgression.***

***<sup>7</sup> What man is like Job, who drinketh up scorning like water?***

***<sup>8</sup> Which goeth in company with the workers of iniquity, and walketh with wicked men.***

***<sup>9</sup> For he hath said, It profiteth a man nothing that he should delight himself with God.***

***<sup>10</sup> Therefore hearken unto me, ye men of understanding: far be it from God, that he should do wickedness; and from the Almighty, that he should commit iniquity.***

***<sup>11</sup> For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways.***

***<sup>12</sup> Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.***

***<sup>13</sup> Who hath given him a charge over the earth? or who hath disposed the whole world?***

***<sup>14</sup> If he set his heart upon man, if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath;***

***<sup>15</sup> All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.***

***<sup>16</sup> If now thou hast understanding, hear this: hearken to the voice of my words.***

***<sup>17</sup> Shall even he that hateth right govern? and wilt thou condemn him that is most just?***

***18 Is it fit to say to a king, Thou art wicked? and to princes, Ye are ungodly?***

***19 How much less to him that accepteth not the persons of princes, nor regardeth the rich more than the poor? for they all are the work of his hands.***

***20 In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight, and pass away: and the mighty shall be taken away without hand.***

***21 For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings.***

***22 There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.***

***23 For he will not lay upon man more than right; that he should enter into judgment with God.***

***24 He shall break in pieces mighty men without number, and set others in their stead.***

***25 Therefore he knoweth their works, and he overturneth them in the night, so that they are destroyed.***

***26 He striketh them as wicked men in the open sight of others;***

***27 Because they turned back from him, and would not consider any of his ways:***

***28 So that they cause the cry of the poor to come unto him, and he heareth the cry of the afflicted.***

***29 When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when he hideth his face, who then can behold him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only:***

***30 That the hypocrite reign not, lest the people be ensnared.***

***31 Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more:***

***32 That which I see not teach thou me: if I have done iniquity, I will do no more.***

***33 Should it be according to thy mind? he will recompense it, whether thou refuse, or whether thou choose; and not I: therefore speak what thou knowest.***

***34 Let men of understanding tell me, and let a wise man hearken unto me.***

***35 Job hath spoken without knowledge, and his words were without wisdom.***

***36 My desire is that Job may be tried unto the end because of his answers for wicked men.***

***37 For he addeth rebellion unto his sin, he clappeth his hands among us, and multiplieth his words against God.***

## **XXXV**

***1 Elihu spake moreover, and said,***

***2 Thinkest thou this to be right, that thou saidst, My righteousness is more than God's?***

***3 For thou saidst, What advantage will it be unto thee? and, What profit shall I have, if I be cleansed from my sin?***

***4 I will answer thee, and thy companions with thee.***

***<sup>5</sup> Look unto the heavens, and see; and behold the clouds which are higher than thou.***

***<sup>6</sup> If thou sinnest, what doest thou against him? or if thy transgressions be multiplied, what doest thou unto him?***

***<sup>7</sup> If thou be righteous, what givest thou him? or what receiveth he of thine hand?***

***<sup>8</sup> Thy wickedness may hurt a man as thou art; and thy righteousness may profit the son of man.***

***<sup>9</sup> By reason of the multitude of oppressions they make the oppressed to cry: they cry out by reason of the arm of the mighty.***

***<sup>10</sup> But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night;***

***<sup>11</sup> Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?***

***<sup>12</sup> There they cry, but none giveth answer, because of the pride of evil men.***

***<sup>13</sup> Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it.***

***<sup>14</sup> Although thou sayest thou shalt not see him, yet judgment is before him; therefore trust thou in him.***

***<sup>15</sup> But now, because it is not so, he hath visited in his anger; yet he knoweth it not in great extremity:***

***<sup>16</sup> Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain; he multiplieth words without knowledge.***

~ We set the stage in our last several reports for Elihu to speak through five chapters of this poetic book of Job. We have almost thoroughly exhausted what he has to say; but not quite. He does, ultimately, advance the

conversation, however; and Elihu had a real spiritual insight that went as far with God as any man could have gone in that day. Elihu the Arab, of all people, knows God is not dealing with Job in the sense of punishment for some secret hidden sin. Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar wanted to stone Job for said non-existent secret sin.

Elihu knows God is using all of the instruments at His disposal to extract the pride from Job's life, and bring Job to the low place where he will trust God. Only when we get there in our own lives can we say what Samuel said, ".... *speak now, Lord, thy servant heareth.*" Job has been so busy defending himself against an outright Satanic onslaught, that he has not had time to think things all the way through; the devil has used the weather, the Sabeans, the Chaldeans, his friends, and an unsympathetic wife to utterly vex and perplex Job. It is difficult to see God's mercy displayed to Job at this time in which we are studying. That's harsh medicine, I know. It's easier to swallow a fifty-pound boat anchor than it is to swallow some of these truths.

Job is still having a real problem with "I" trouble. He can't see the awful realities that separated him from closer fellowship with God. When people today think of God moving in their lives, they usually think of personal benefits. They never consider God sometimes allows the devil to move in death and destruction against us – as He did to Job. Perhaps you don't even need to learn that lesson? Well – apparently, I do. It's easy to get preoccupied with organizations and technology and life circumstances — and quickly discover we're not walking with God at all. We usually don't walk above our circumstances; most of us walk *far* beneath our circumstances. Life's experiences generally weigh the average person down to nothing. Jesus says, "*Come to Me and I will give you rest.*" Well, He's the *only* way, friends.

I have personally experienced what I consider beyond average adverse circumstances in my own life. The realities of circumstances in my life are horrible facts. Well, I can see the purpose for those problems, and I can see how they have shaped who I am. Now, I'm not being pious and saying I praise the Lord for everything that happened – because I don't. I would change many things, if I could. The point is: God used each of those

experiences in my life for a specific purpose — and I recognize and know that. Most importantly, I *accept* it. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the True and Living God. We might add sorrowful. That's how we're made contrite. While we're alive, it isn't easy to follow Christ; not at all.

It is easy to allow our circumstances to come between us and the Lord. We can step out of fellowship with Him without even trying. It is a horrible feeling when we lose the sense of His presence, peace, leading and guidance. That's when most of us begin to worry and stress; and lose our joy and peace. That leads to us imagining God is not concerned with us any longer. That opens the door for Satan to attack through our fretting, impatient, irritable, fault-finding conclusions towards El Shaddai – Almighty God. Communion can become sin because of our circumstances, friends. God wants to bring us back to Himself in brokenness of heart and humbleness of mind. That is what God is after in your life. That's what He was seeking from Job — and that's what God wants in my life today, too. You may not think so, but I am confident that it is exactly so. We all fail Him. We all come short of His glory. Don't kid yourself.

Elihu is actually framing the conversation to allow God to break in and proclaim His own statements now. Job is going to experience the direct ministry of God for a very definite purpose. Job is going to be changed in his relationship to God – and to himself – and to his friends. You and I will have to be changed in and of ourselves when we go to be with the Lord, too. God has no problem permitting that change – in fact, it's *going* to happen; and He does permit trouble to come to us for that end alone! The Lord chastens whom He loves – makes us contrite – and that literally means to bruise us; and God particularly chastens and bruises pride. Make a note.

God permits our bruising to bring us to humility and humbleness before Him. It's the only way He can get our attention. We carefully considered all of these profound truths in our previous two reports. Instruction from the Lord is not some easy and over-simplified process; and whom God loveth He chastens — those who are His Own. The way of God is not the easy way in life, my beloved — you may be absolutely sure of that. In our last several reports, we saw how Job despised the chastening of the Lord; and that's not going to get us anywhere in life.

Job realized God has a right to do whatever God does; and Job began to break under that truth. We're told not to faint whenever we are rebuked of the Lord. Job did. Everything God does, He permits for a purpose in our lives. Carrying a placard outside the gates of Heaven saying God is wrong is absurd, friends. There are a whole bunch of people doing exactly that today, too. They have joined other fools who are in rebellion against God. There is no unrighteousness with God; and I don't want to be ugly – but – I guess I'm going to be: saying God is wrong is what Satan says. God is always right. You and I are the ones who are always wrong.

God isn't going to check with us to see if it's okay for Him to allow a Satanic attack to occur. Those of you who think you fight the devil and all of that nonsense have already lost the battle. You're just bitter that you have been defeated; and you've likely already stopped reading this safari a *long* time ago, too. And that's okay. God doesn't do wickedly, and God doesn't pervert judgment. That's something you might want to write down in your little book somewhere. Write it in ink; because it's not going to change: God does not do evil – period. God never permits wrong acts. If you want to go back and find fault with God for ordering the extermination of the Amorites – or whatever – go ahead; I have seven words for you: God was right in what He did.

Maybe you don't see how God was right in some particular thing that has happened to you. Candidly, God isn't concerned with your approval or disapproval of what He does; but, if you sincerely want to know why God does certain things, He will reveal His wisdom to you – in His Word – if you ask properly — and then study to show yourself approved. There's no other way other than in His Word. See, whether you understand or don't understand – God is right from every perspective. The entire human basis of thinking reasons from experience to truth. That's exactly backwards. That's the reason so few ever arrive at truth. Pilate asked what Truth was when Truth stood right in front of him. Jesus says He is the Truth. If you attempt to begin with experience, you will simply never – ever – never arrive at truth – because that would be impossible.



God has a care and a concern for mankind, beloved. He loves us. We ought to learn our lessons from His loving correction and chastisement but, we usually don't. We usually continue in our prideful rebellion while God is trying to tell us something very important that affects our life. Either way, His plan and purpose will be accomplished for His glory! That goes for the lost *and* the saved, by the way – either way, we will glorify Christ. That should send a little chill down the spine.

Elihu says Job spoke without knowledge. That's the problem most of us have. There is such a high rate of talking without wisdom in religious circles that it is truly alarming. Tragically, we have reached a day where men *insist* on their ignorance. We also live in the day of "*groups*" and "*rooms*" – and those appear to be benign – but so much asinine stuff is echoed that I just don't get involved anymore. Much of the ridiculousness comes from men who appear extremely smart; some possess Ph.D. degrees. But, even so, very ignorant dogmatism and foolish philosophy are stated as fact in religious circles.

Well, Elihu condemns Job for answering without knowledge and with words that held no wisdom. That railing against Job continues on into chapter thirty-five. Elihu is accusing Job because Job is saying Job is right and God is wrong. That's the only inference that can reasonably be deduced. Our lives affect the heart and mind of God, dear readers. That is the wonder of it all, quite honestly. Our sin is almost infinite; if we desire a brutally honest evaluation. Abraham sinned with Hagar, and the Muslim Islamic Arabian anti-Semite was the result. That's what's real, my friends. Sarah and Abraham were *W-R-O-N-G*; - *VERY* wrong - and God wasn't about to bless Abraham's sin and disobedience that resulted in Ishmael. There is a dire consequence as the result of willful disobedience; and there will be consequences of sin in our lives, too. Sin is an awful thing that affects God's emotions.

I think we all know that, as believers, we are priests; irrespective of who we are in life. That means our wickedness will *ALWAYS* hurt and harm the cause of Christ and others. Spiritual cancer such as pride and a lifted-up heart are as contagious as the E-bola Virus – but a thousand times more deadly. Our righteousness from God, on the other hand, just might serve to

help someone. That makes the only real place of happiness with God, in Christ Jesus. Blessed be God; and “*blessed*” means happy. God wants to give us real joy and true rest and genuine truth; even in time of testing and chastening. John wrote his epistles that our joy might be full! Jesus said He went to the cross for the joy that was set before Him. Christ is the One Who brings us Psalms, balm, and healing songs in the night. The world’s music doesn’t have those qualities – not in any way.

The Holy Spirit speaking about the things of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Word of God through our Spiritual Safari is a Great and Wonderful Teacher. There is high value in the Gospel – make no mistake. There is high value in these reports that the Lord God Almighty is bringing you access to. I believe in miracles, but Christ’s teaching was the real miracle; make a note of that, too. It’s so important. The death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ are the Gospel facts, in a nutshell; but Jesus taught those things while He was here on earth; so we’re back to square one with Christ being the Almighty Teacher Who cannot be answered.

As we move forward in our expedition we have just two more reports in the Book of Job – and we’re going to see God Himself break forth during a storm. In the storms of life, God can speak peace to us – He wants to; but that’s a lesson we usually learn backwards – storm first. Oh, that you and I might not allow circumstances to come between our souls and our fellowship with God our Father in Heaven, readers. When trouble comes along, we have a choice. We can despise and ignore the trouble God sends, we can faint and give up — or we can allow God to accomplish His purposes in us. We all say we want the fruit of righteousness; well, there’s only one way to grow that fruit ~

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