

THE HOPE OF THE REDEEMED

Pastor Jose F. Maldonado

Hillburn Drive Grace Baptist Church

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“For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.” Job 19:25-27.

- I. THE LIVING REDEEMER.
- II. THE LATTER REIGN.
- III. THE LYING REMAINS.
- IV. THE LASTING REUNION.

The first thing we want to consider is:

I. THE LIVING REDEEMER.

We are given by our God a living hope in the grace of salvation. We must understand that all of us will one day die, but those of us who are saved; we have the hope of eternal life which gives great assurance of knowing that one day we shall see our Redeemer. 1 Thess.4:13-18, gives great comfort to the children of God, regardless of their eschatological position. *“13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have **no hope**. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall **not prevent them which are asleep**. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: **and the dead in Christ shall rise first**: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: **and so shall we ever be with the Lord**. 18 Wherefore comfort one another **with these words**.”* This should bring comfort to all who name the name of Christ, knowing that if we die we will enter into heaven’s everlasting glory, because those who die or fall asleep in the arms of their Savior, say in faith, *“Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord.”*

Again, we must understand; that all of us one day will pass out of this world into eternity. The question that needs to be asked is where will I spend eternity or where will I find myself at death? Most don’t like to entertain these thoughts. When I was lost, I use entertain these thoughts mostly when I was drunk. I’d be driving home, thinking, if I die in a car wreck and kill myself, what will happen to me, where will I go? I would sooth my conscience by saying, well I’m not that good to go to heaven, but I’m not that bad to go to hell. I’ll wind up in purgatory. But I was sadly mistaken I would have split hell wide open, because there is no purgatory. Have you ever asked yourself these questions, if not then I’ll ask them for you, what will happen to you when you die or where will you go when you die? Will it be a blessing or a will it be an awful judgment? Rev.14:12 & 13, says, *“Here is the **patience of the saints**: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. (And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”*

Well, no question that Job by faith knew something of this truth proclaimed in Rev 14:13, “...*blessed are the dead die in the Lord...*” Job with the eye of faith laid hold of this glorious truth when he declares and boldly asserts in great assurance, “*For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.*” Job says, “*For **I know** that my redeemer liveth...*” Not I hope so or I think so or I guess so or it may be, no, no, no Job affirms and claims confidently, “**I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH!**” IN MY FLESH SHALL I SEE GOD, I SHALL SEE FOR MYSELF, MINE EYES SHALL BEHOLD!

Job was going through a very hard and difficult time. Job knew something of the pain of losing love ones to death. He had lost all his children, lost his wealth, lost his health as his body was in pain, lost his wife to foolishness and was now suffering the afflictions and accusations of his 3 closest friends. How worse can it get? Look at verses 13 – 21, in verse 21 it says “touched me,” in the sense of afflictions. God’s hand was heavy upon Job. He understood very clearly the words of Peter in I Peter 5:6, “*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.*” He was under such intense suffering and affliction; notice his expression of agony in verses 23 & 24, “*Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book! That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!*” Do you notice the 3 exclamation marks? There is a lot of emotion and passion put into these 2 verses. Whether or not he had full meaning or complete understanding of the words he was saying or not, I led the commentators fight over that, yet his soul is overwhelmed with a sense of deep brokenness of heart and confusion of mind as he utters some profound revelation that is concealed in his words. He had a desire that his solemn and weighty words be written or recorded in a book. Not too often do we get what we want, but God in His mercy and love bestowed unto Job his desires. Not just written anywhere, not just recorded in any book, but in GOD’S BOOK! THE BIBLE! What a blessing, yea, what a privilege! How glorious that his words would be written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond and graven upon the tablet of God’s Holy book embedded in the rock FOREVER! No question that his words were to be “...*graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!*” The Spirit of God in Divine inspiration has with an eternal iron pen written these words FOR EVER! Matthew 5:18, “*For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*” **Luke 21:33, “Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.”** Heaven and earth will pass away first long before these words of Job would pass away. These words will never pass away for they are in God’s book for ever! Job had no clue when he uttered these words that God would fulfill his desire. This morning, though Job being dead, yet he speaks.

What words preface Job’s glorious heartfelt statements here in verses 25 – 27! He shares his pain with us, but with the eye of faith speaks of his living redeemer. These words of Job here are cemented and fixed in great faith, as they gloriously proclaim: “**I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH!**” Job’s faith was strong and firm with such a holy conviction in believing that His Redeemer was gloriously and lovingly his! For he says, I KNOW! It didn’t make a difference what was going on in his life or what anybody else said, what anybody else believed, what anybody else thought, what anybody else professed, Job proclaims powerfully

MY REDEEMER LIVES! MY REDEEMER IS ALIVE! What about you this morning do you have a redeemer? Or are you too busy wallowing in your problems and lose sight of this blessed redeemer? Do you know anything of a redeemer or are you yet in your sins? You see this is what gives us our hope and can say with Job, I know that my redeemer liveth! Do you know anything of this, or this strange language to you? Job says I will one day behold Him with mine own eyes.

I will not spend time trying to explain the word redeemer here. Most commentators fight over the true meaning of the Hebrew word “goel,” for redeemer here, whether it is speaking of Christ or of a close relative of Job who would be his avenger of blood. Some believe that the word means just to vindicate, that is; God is going to vindicate Job from the accusation of his friends. Though there might be some application to these interpretations, I take the position that this is speaking of Christ, the redeemer, the true kinsman redeemer, the true Boaz of our souls. Christ purchased us from the slave market of sin, He has ransomed us, He has paid our sin debt as Peter boldly declares, *“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, (that is, redeemed us with the precious blood of Christ) as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.”* I Peter 1:19-21. Titus 2:14, *“Who gave himself for us, that he might **redeem** us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”* Gal.1:13, *“Christ hath **redeemed** us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that hangeth on a tree.”* Rev. 5:9, *“And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast **redeemed** us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”*

This is the redeemer I believe Job is speaking about. I like what Charles Spurgeon says here, *“Brethren, Job could say this of Christ long before he had descended upon earth, “I know that he liveth;” and now that he has ascended up on high, and led captivity captive, surely we may with double emphasis say, “I know that my Goel, my Kinsman liveth, and that he hath paid the price...so that in my flesh I shall see God...”* Apparently, Spurgeon believed that Christ was Job’s redeemer. Spurgeon continues powerfully, *“Now, our Lord Jesus Christ, who once has played the kinsman's part by paying the price for us, liveth, and he will redeem us by power. O Death, thou tremblest at this name! Thou knowest the might of our Kinsman! Against his arm thou canst not stand! Thou didst once meet him foot to foot in stern battle, and O Death, thou didst indeed tread upon his heel. He voluntarily submitted to this, or else, O Death, thou hadst no power against him. But he slew thee, Death, he slew thee! He rifled all thy caskets, took from thee the key of thy castle, burst open the door of thy dungeon; and now, thou knowest, Death, thou hast no power to hold my body; thou mayst set thy slaves to devour it, but thou shalt give it up, and all their spoil must be restored. Insatiable Death, from thy greedy jaw yet shall return the multitudes whom thou hast devoured. Thou shalt be compelled by the Saviour to restore thy captives to the light of day. I think I see Jesus coming with his Father's servants. The chariots of the Lord are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels. Blow ye the trumpet! blow ye the trumpet! Immanuel rides to battle! The Most Mighty in majesty girds on his sword. He comes! He comes to snatch by power, his people's lands from those*

who have invaded their portion. Oh, how glorious the victory! No battle shall there be. He comes, he sees, he conquers. The sound of the trumpet shall be enough; Death shall fly affrighted; and at once from beds of dust and silent clay, to realms of everlasting day the righteous shall arise."

Yes, our Lord Jesus Christ sits majestically on His white horse going forth, conquering and to conquer and there is none that can stay His hand and saith unto Him what doest thou? We confess, LORD Jesus, You have conquered sin, You have conquered Satan and yea, You have conquered DEATH! We can now say boldly, O death, O death where is thy sting? O grave, O grave where is thy victory? With Job in faith we can proclaim, I know, I know, I mean I really know that MY, yes, MY Redeemer LIVETH! This is our hope, in that, not only do we have a redeemer, but our redeemer LIVES. Remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ in John 11 when he came to Lazarus grave and Martha was concerned, it says in verses 20-26, "*Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*" How about you, do you believe this? Well no question that Job believed this, for he said with an unflinching faith saturated in unwavering conviction, I know that my redeemer LIVETH! Because He lives, I will live, what hope, what faith, what confidence, what expectation! This is why Christ encourages us with words of love in John 14:1-3, 6 & 19, "*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*" And the last part of verse 19, "...because I live, ye shall live also."

Spurgeon again says, "*Christ shall certainly avenge himself on Death for all the injury which Death hath done to his beloved kinsmen. Comfort thyself then, O Christian; thou hast ever living, even when thou diest, one who avenges thee, one who has paid the price for thee, and one whose strong arms shall yet set thee free.*" This is what gives us hope, knowing that our redeemer is alive and living! Job's faith was strong and firm in the truth that this redeemer was his, for he says, I know that "MY" redeemer lives. It was personal to him, not just some confession of faith or reciting some creed, some catechism, some articles of faith, he was not just going through the motions or mechanics of religion, Christ was His personal redeemer, whether He was anyone else's redeemer or not, HE is MY, do you get this, HE is MY, HE is MINE, He is MY REDEEMER and HE is ALIVE for evermore! "*My beloved is mine, and I am his...*" SOS 2:16. Can everyone in this auditorium this morning say with such faith, with such conviction, I KNOW, not I think, not I hope, not I guess, but, I KNOW, I KNOW, that MY, yes, MY REDEEMER LIVETH! Can you say this with Job this evening, I know what Job says, but what do you say? The question is simple and simply put, but oh how crucial, yea how solemn is your answer, Is HE YOUR REDEEMER? Can you say with great faith and great conviction, yes, yes, He is mine and I am His and therefore I Know HE is My, MY REDEEMER!

Death does not separate us from our redeemer, nay it brings us to HIM! What is death? Death is but the separation of the soul from the body and we have the promise of our Great God in 2 Corinthians 5:5 & 6, *“Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the **body**, we are **absent from the Lord**: We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be **absent from the body**, and to be present with the Lord.”* Even while our body sleeps in that long night of the grave, in those dark hours of death, our soul in is the presence of Christ, waiting to be united one day to that newly formed glorified body. Dear beloved do you have Christ? Do you have this hope? What will happen to you at death? Will you go to the glories of heaven with Christ and join Job with the myriads of Christians or will you be plunged into the horrible pit of hell? Will you not come to Christ even now in repentance and faith, bow the knee to King Jesus and confess Him with the tongue that He is Lord? This is your only hope at death, that you have a redeemer! Lay hold of Christ this evening, come to Him, look to Him, trust in Him alone for your salvation, be it but a feeble faith, if you have faith as a grain of a mustard seed, that faith entitles you to say and say now, **“I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH!** Can you say with Job, though He slays me, yet I will trust in HIM!

Again we ask, do you know this redeemer? Do you know the only Savior of sinners? Come to Christ even now! *“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”* Isa. 55:6 & 6. *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* Matthew 11:28 – 30.)