

Job 42

Job #7 When at Last We See

From anguish ...

I. At The End of Words

- A. Nothing Left to Say
- B. Now It's Time To Hear

II. In the Presence of God

- A. In Awe
- B. Overwhelmed
- C. Finally Seeing

III. At the end of Self

- A. Undone
- B. Humbled
- C. Renewed

IV. In Light of Christ

- A. Momentary Affliction
- B. Eternal Glory

... to assurance.

Children, Listen ...

1. When God reminds Job of Who He, what happens to Job?
2. How does this help us to understand life better?
3. Jesus suffered, died and rose again. How does that bring comfort to those who believe in Him?

A New Level of Awe

Have you ever been overwhelmed by the presence of God? Awestruck by His power and glory? Undone by His majesty? When we consider God's infinite greatness up against our finite puniness (not to mention our sinfulness) we should be astounded that we live, move and have our being in Him without being dismantled and dissolved! A sense of His presence of this magnitude may not be our regular state of mind, but Job's experience helps us to see something of what it looks like. Good, godly and upstanding as Job may have been he needed to know more about His God, and God, in his grace provides that through a barrage of rhetorical questions that put the man in his place. Job is silenced and dismantled by his intensive encounter with his Creator, and in the end, he is closer to God than he ever was. God loved Job so much that he sustained him through great suffering, the works of the devil, the pestering ill-advised counsel of his friends as well as his own sinful responses to his situation. He brought His servant through dark providences and into closer communion and trust after all.

Perhaps profoundest of all in this epic account of Job is the picture of Christ it provides for us. Job's suffering was sanctifying, Christ's salvific. Jesus suffered for our sake and He died for our salvation. But our Redeemer lives and has secured the benefits of His obedience with us. Job knew God, but he didn't know him with the same fullness believers do as the fullness of time has come and the work of salvation is complete. All saints in Christ can now agree with the apostle Paul when he writes: So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:16-18). Believers will one day will step into the presence of God's glory. We will be in undiminished awe of Him, finally unburdened forever of the sorrows of life, and freed of all obstacles to sweet communion and wholehearted, awestruck worship of our glorious Creator!