

THE GOOD OL' DAYS

Job 29-30

As we examine Job's reflections we'll find that remembering the past can help us endure the present.

I. LONGING FOR THE PAST - Chapter 29

- I had it all!

A. JOB'S RELATIONSHIPS (1-6)

1. With God (1-5a)
2. With his children (5b)
3. With his world (6)

B. JOB'S RESPECT (7-25)

1. The Reality (7-11)
 - a. His position (7)
 - b. His prestige (8-10)
 - c. His persona (11)
2. The Reasons (12-25)
 - a. He helped others (12-13)
 - b. He exercised justice (14-17)
 - c. He exuded confidence (18-20)
 - d. He gave wise counsel (21-25)

II. LAMENTING THE PRESENT - Chapter 30

- I lost it all!

A. DISRESPECTED BY THE LOWLIEST (1-15)

- Job is taunted by scum who scorn

1. The character of his attackers (1-8)
 - Lazy, needy, thieves (1-5); repulsive outcasts (6-7); nameless fools (8)
2. The conduct of his attackers (9-15)
 - Offensive (9-10); mean (11-13); frightening (14-15)

B. DESERTED BY GOD (16-23)

1. The Affliction (16-18)
 - He is weak (16), sleepless (17) and suffocating (18)
2. The Abandonment (19-23)
 - God dirties (19); disregards (20); defeats (21-22); and destroys (23) Job.

Over please >

C. DISTURBED BY AFFLICTION (24-31)

1. Job's Complaint (24-26)
 - Injustice (24-25) and disappointment (26)
2. Job's Condition (27-31)
 - a. Stressed and frustrated (27-28)
 - b. Separated and forlorn (29)
 - c. Sick and feverish (30-31)

III. LEARNING AMID LAMENT - Observations

- I'll grow through suffering

A. THE VALUE OF MEMORY (29:1-2)

1. Protection: Memories give you something to fall back on when things are difficult
 - Exp: II Tim. 1:3-5
2. Perspective: Never abandoning a reflection upon and appreciation of God's former favors

B. THE VIRTUE OF MINISTRY (29:12-17)

1. Job's Actions: He was out there ... doing things
2. Job's Attitude: A selfless servant, doing what he could - Exp: Neh. 13:14, 22, 31

C. THE VOICE OF MOANING (30:20-23)

1. Crying is understandable and helpful - See Psalm 40:1-3
2. Calling out is permissible and commanded - See Jer. 33:3; Matt. 11:28-30 and I Peter 5:7

D. THE VALIDITY OF MISERY (30:24)

1. Acknowledging dependence
 - God humbles us by forcing us to ask for help - See James 5:14-16
2. Anticipating deliverance
 - Stretching the hand and raising the voice - See Lam. 3:25-26

E. THE VARIATION OF MUSIC (30:31)

1. The force of music
 - Music communicates mood
2. The therapy of music
 - a. Job changed channels to slow and soothing music
 - b. Exp: David playing during King Saul's fits - I Sam. 16:23

CONCLUSION:

Might our lamenting times become learning times.