

THE BOOK OF JOB

Job 2:11-13

INTRODUCTION:

1. What kind of friend are you? (Prov. 22.24,25; 17.17)
2. The devil brutally attacked Job's character. (Job 2.3; 1.20; 2.10)
3. In Job 2.11-13, we are introduced to Job's three friends.

I. A GOOD FRIEND FEELS WITH YOU

- A. **JOB 2.11:** *"Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him"*
1. They traveled some distance. (v. 11; cf. Gen. 25.1,2)
 2. Mourn (Episkeptomai): Literally, "to watch over"
- B. A good friend will go and feel with those who suffer.
1. **ROMANS 12.12:** *"weep with those who weep"*
 2. Why? Suffering makes you feel isolated. (1 Cor. 12.26).

II. A GOOD FRIEND FEELS TOWARD YOU

- A. **JOB 2.11:** *"For they had made an appointment together to come and mourn with him, and to comfort him."*
1. Comfort (naham): A derivation of Nahum, the prophet who comforted Judah. (Nah. 1.1)
 2. It is equivalent to the Greek "parakaleo" (Gen. 24.67)
- B. A good friend will run to the side and help those who suffer.
1. Though Paul was hurting, he was filled with comfort *"by the coming of Titus"* (2 Cor. 7.4-6,13).
 2. Do you feel your efforts are in vain? (Luke 22.43,44)
 3. Sometimes just being there is all they need. (Job 2.13)

III. A GOOD FRIEND FEELS FOR YOU

- A. **JOB 2.12:** *"they lifted their voices and wept"*
1. They did not recognize him. (cf. Ruth 1.19-21)
 2. They mourned for him. (Job 2.12)
- B. A good friend will hurt to see their friends hurting.
1. How did John or Mary feel about Jesus? (John 19.27)
 2. This is how you know you are a good friend!

CONCLUSION: Are you a friend of Jesus? (John 15.14)

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"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"
-Mark 16.15

April 26, 2015

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

THE PRAYER OF THE NEEDY

Everyone has at one time in their lives made petitions to God. Even the atheist Charles Darwin prayed while on his deathbed. The Bible tells us that God does not hear the prayer of sinners, but he hears those who do His will (John 9.31).

In Psalm 86, David made a petition to God. In the very first verse, David asked God to turn His ear in his direction and hear (Ps. 86.1). In verse 6, David continues this thought saying, *"Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications"* (Ps. 86.6). From this we see the concept of prayer. It is asking God to turn in our direction and give attention to the matters that concern us most.

It is of interest to me how Psalm 86.1 ends. As David asked God to hear his prayer, he said, *"for I am poor and needy"* (Ps. 86.1). One of the reasons we pray to God is because we are incapable of accomplishing on our own the things that we are asking. It is a total and utter dependence upon God. We approach Him in prayer because we are poor and needy.

When I pray to God, I need to remember that I am praying to a God who is gracious and is interested in my life. He wants to hear from me, and desires to provide for my needs (Luke 11.5-13). We pray because we need God, and God wants to be there for us. CLP

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

1 CORINTHIANS 15:20

INTRODUCTION:

1. **MATTHEW 16.18-21:** Jesus predicted that He would be crucified and then raised from the dead on the third day.
2. We don't know where Jesus was crucified or where His tomb was located. But we know that Jesus was resurrected!
3. Consider the significance of His resurrection on our lives today.

I. WHAT IF CHRIST WAS NEVER RAISED?

- A. If Christ was never raised, we would have no faith.
 1. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.14:** *“our preaching is empty, and your faith is also empty.”*
 2. Empty (kenos): “having nothing.” (cf. Phil. 2.7)
 3. The gospel is a message that saves, but it is empty of meaning without His resurrection. (1 Cor. 15.1-4)
- B. If Christ was never raised, we would have no forgiveness.
 1. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.17:** *“And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!”*
 2. Futile (mataios): “useless” it has no benefit.
 3. Faith is Jesus gives us the forgiveness of sins. But not it Jesus was never raised. (Acts 10.43)
- C. If Christ was never raised, we would have no future.
 1. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.18,19:** *“Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.”*
 2. To fall asleep in Jesus is to die as a faithful Christian. (1 Thess. 4.13-15; Gal. 3.26,27)

II. BUT CHRIST IS RISEN!

- A. **1 CORINTHIANS 15.20:** *“Christ is risen from the dead”*
 1. Now there is reason to believe.
 2. Now forgiveness is available.
 3. Now heaven can be in our future.
- B. Consider two important passages.
 1. **ROMANS 6.1-7:** Baptism is connected to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
 2. **EPHESIANS 2.4-8:** I have access to the benefits of His resurrection because of the grace of God.

CONCLUSION: Do you believe that Jesus was raised? (Rom. 10.9)

WHEN WAS JESUS RESURRECTED?

We do not know the day that Jesus was born though most of the world believes and celebrates Christmas as the birth of Christ. Yet we can know when Jesus was resurrected.

In **MATTHEW 26.17**, we are told that it was *“the first day of the feast of unleavened bread.”* In that same verse, the disciples asked Jesus about where to *“prepare for You to eat the Passover.”* It was that same evening that Jesus *“sat down with the twelve”* to eat the Passover feast. (Matt. 26.20). If you study Exodus 12, the children of Israel were commanded to eat the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the month of Nisan (Ex. 12.5). That month corresponds to the our month of April. Thus we can conclude that Jesus was raised from the dead in April.

Furthermore, we know that Jesus was crucified on a Friday. Mark tells us that after Jesus died, Joseph of Arimathea asked for the body of Jesus on *“the day before the Sabbath.”* The word “sabbath” literally means “rest,” and God designated this day of rest to be on the seventh day of the week (Ex. 20.8-11). Therefore we know that Jesus was crucified on the day before Saturday, which was Friday.

What about Sunday? How do we know that Jesus was raised from the dead on Sunday? In John's account, you have Jesus put to death and buried on Friday *“because...the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath”* (John 19.31). After Jesus was buried, the women followed to see where they were going to lay the body of Jesus. They then returned home *“and rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment”* (Luke 23.54,55). The very next verse tells us that *“on the first day of the week...they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.”* (Luke 24.1-3).

Put all of that together. Jesus celebrated the Passover on Thursday, the fourteenth day of Nisan. On that same night, Jesus was betrayed and arrested (1 Cor. 11.23-25). The next day (Friday) Jesus was tried, convicted, and crucified. Friday was the first day. Saturday was the second day. Sunday was the third day. It was on this third day that Jesus was raised from the dead. (1 Cor. 15.3,4). We do not know the exact date of Jesus' resurrection. But we do know that He was resurrected on the first day of the week sometime from the end of March to about mid-April.

The world celebrates the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Jesus said nothing about commemorating His resurrection. However, He specified that His death is to be remembered on the first day of every week (1 Cor. 11.24; Acts 2.42; 20.7). CLP