



[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional - Monday, August 5, 2024 - Eliphaz: Sin Caused Your Suffering

AUGUST 05TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Monday, August 5, 2024 - Eliphaz: Sin Caused Your Suffering

Years ago, when I was in seminary, I misplaced one of my Bibles. One of my classmates picked it up. Approximately a week later, he returned it to me along with a statement: “You obviously have not been having quiet time with the Lord.” It must not have occurred to him that I had more than one Bible. I thought, “With friends like you, who needs enemies?”

Job must have had similar thoughts as his friends began to respond to his plight. While they were silent (2:13), they were probably a comfort to Job (2:11). But when they began to speak, their words were sharp as razors. The first to respond was Eliphaz. He appears to have been the leader of the three friends (42:7).

Blessed is the one whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.

JOB 5:17

Eliphaz complimented Job for giving wise instruction to others, strengthening the weak and supporting the unstable (vv. 3–4). At least, this was the public face of Job. However, because of Eliphaz’s extreme view of retribution, he was convinced that Job was leading a double life. Eliphaz believed that a person “only” reaps what he sows. Therefore, Job must have secretly sowed evil.

The good news from Eliphaz’s perspective was that Job could be blessed by God. His tragedy was God’s reproof (5:17). If Job turned to God (5:8) and away from evil (5:12–13), advised Eliphaz, then Job could once again experience God’s blessing (5:17).

Galatians 6:7 is clear: “Do not be deceived. God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.” However, tragedy is not always the result of our own sinful behavior. Jesus Christ, who had no sin was tragically crucified for our sins. We may suffer for sin, but it is not always our own personal sin. As believers, we should never despise God’s discipline, but tragedy isn’t necessarily God’s discipline.

Go Deeper

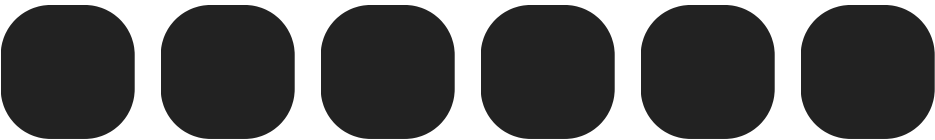
What did Job’s friends fail to understand? Have you ever been falsely accused of something? How did you respond?

Pray with Us: Jesus, Savior, You brought the Kingdom of Light into the shadows of our lives. And You walked through the shadows of our world as well. Kindle great hope in our hearts as we wait for You to come in power and glory to make all things new.

LAST UPDATED ON AUGUST 05TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vjrm/Daily-Devotional--Monday-August-5-2024--Eliphaz-Sin-Caused-Your-Suffering>

Go to post



More from ShowMe Times:

TOP

Daily Devotional - Friday, August 2, 2024 -
Worshiping in Tragedy

Daily Devotional - Friday, August 2, 2024 - Worshiping in Tragedy

In 2009, a major news outlet published an article titled “Why Do We Believe That Catastrophes Come in Threes?” The author stated, “The persistence of this belief is difficult to explain since the case for it is so easily demolished.” The story of Job demolishes this illogical belief as well. Job’s catastrophes came in four waves.

After receiving permission from the Lord, Satan began to attack Job’s household and possessions (v. 12). Job received a string of bad news from a survivor of each event.

*The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;
may the name of the LORD be praised.*

JOB 1:21

First, the Sabeans killed his herdsmen with the sword and stole his oxen and donkeys. Next, lightning struck and killed all his sheep and the shepherds watching them. Then, the Chaldeans stole his camels and murdered more servants. Finally, a windstorm destroyed the house where Job’s children were feasting and killed them all. This last news was the worst of all. His children had been killed from what we might call “an act of God.”

Not having time to grieve between each of the four sequential messages, he finally mourned his loss. The narrator depicts four separate and sequential acts by Job. He got up. He tore his robe. He shaved his head. He fell to the ground in worship (v. 20). He acknowledged that everything he had came from God and that the Giver had the right to take back those gifts. Job’s response expresses praise, even in the midst of tragedy: “The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised” (v. 21).

It would have been easy for Job to become angry with the Lord for taking away his possessions and his children. However, the narrator allows us to see that just as Job was concerned that his children might have “sinned and cursed God in their hearts” (v. 5), Job hadn’t sinned against God in his (v. 22).

Go Deeper

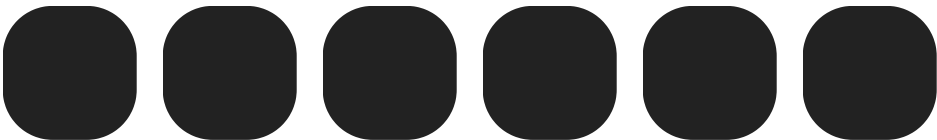
Has God ever removed something or someone important in your life? Did you respond appropriately?

Pray with Us: Almighty God, we marvel at Job’s unshakable faith in the face of all his misfortunes! Give us strength to be able to say, like Job, “May the name of the Lord be praised” (Job 1:21), in both happy and hard times.

LAST UPDATED ON AUGUST 02ND 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vjr6/Daily-Devotional--Friday-August-2-2024--Worshipping-in-Tragedy>

Go to post



More from ShowMe Times:

TOP

Daily Devotional - Monday, July 29, 2024 - A Certain Future

JULY 29TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Monday, July 29, 2024 - A Certain Future

A few years ago, I was at a conference where the speaker was introduced as a “futurist.” I had never heard of that as a job title before. A futurist is someone who analyzes data and trends to forecast what might happen in different areas of life such as technology, government, or medicine.

Humans have always desired a glimpse into what the future holds.

In Genesis 49, Jacob gathered his sons to share one final message (v. 1). He introduced his speech by declaring that he would “tell you what will happen to you in the days to come” (v. 1). His speech described the future tribes of Israel and some of their qualities. The sons are grouped by their mutual mothers and then listed in their birth order.

The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.

GENESIS 49:10

The first three sons are told why they will not be considered as the firstborn. Reuben engaged in sexual sin (v. 3). Simeon and Levi violently overreacted to the crime committed against their sister by killing many (Gen. 34:25–31). But while Judah had his own issues, he had demonstrated repentance and a changed life. Jacob prophesied that Judah will be a leader among the tribes of Israel. He declared, “The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his” (v. 10). Jacob here tells of a Messianic king who will rule over the nations. The New Testament writers affirm that this prophecy finds its fulfillment in Jesus (Rev. 5:5).

Just as God has been faithful to keep His promises to Abraham, we can be confident that He will keep His promises to us regarding the Lord Jesus' Second Coming when He will rule over the nations! Jesus said, “Yes, I am coming soon” (Rev. 22:20). To which we can respond, “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.”

Go Deeper

Do you worry about the future? How does knowing we can depend on God's promise about Jesus' return change the way we live today?

Pray with Us: Jesus, we eagerly await Your return! Teach us how to live in the light of Your Second Coming. May we grow in faith as Christians and citizens of Your eternal kingdom. “Come, Lord Jesus” (Rev. 22:20).

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 29TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vjqs/Daily-Devotional--Monday-July-29-2024--A-Certain-Future>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional - Sunday, July 28, 2024 - Our Family Story

JULY 28TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Sunday, July 28, 2024 - Our Family Story

My daughter often asks me to tell her stories at night when I put her to bed. She wants to know about things that happened when I was a child and the history of our family. These stories are deeply formative. They give her a sense of place and belonging.

Joseph's wife was an Egyptian from a high-ranking priestly family (Gen. 41:45). Joseph himself was one of the highest ranked government officials in Egypt. He could have raised his children as Egyptians and provided them with all the benefits of an elite Egyptian upbringing. Yet, he gave them Hebrew names. In Genesis 48, he has them adopted as sons of Jacob.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

ROMANS 6:5

As Jacob was nearing death, Joseph brought his two sons to be blessed by Jacob. Jacob told these boys a story about their family. Jacob recounted the story of when God appeared to him and promised, "I am going to make you fruitful and increase your numbers. I will make you a community of peoples, and I will give you this land as an everlasting possession to your descendants after you" (v. 4). There was no more formative story for Jacob's family than the

promise that God had given to him and to his fathers Isaac and Abraham before him. Joseph’s sons became a part of this story as the blessing was passed on to them. Jacob prayed that they would be called “by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac” (v. 16).

As followers of Jesus, we too have a family story. We have been rescued from our slavery to sin and forgiven by God (Rom. 6:1–14). We have been adopted into God’s family as His sons and daughters (Rom. 8:14–17). We have a new citizenship in heaven (Phil. 3:20). And one day, we will be raised with Christ and reign with Him (1 Cor. 15:20–28)!

Go Deeper

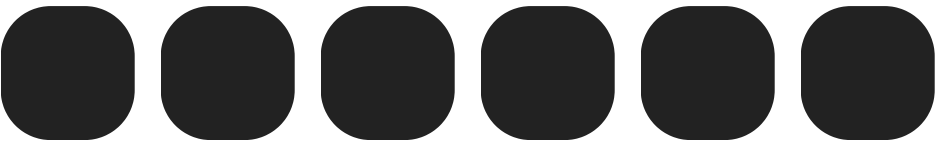
What is your family story? How has it shaped your faith? Remember, that your most important identity is found in Christ!

Pray with Us: As we study the family stories in Genesis, we lift up our own families in prayer. Lord Jesus, You see the many needs we face. Give us faith, wisdom, and perseverance so we can be a blessing to all generations.

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 28TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vjqr/Daily-Devotional--Sunday-July-28-2024--Our-Family-Story>

Go to post



More from ShowMe Times:

Daily Devotional - Friday, July 26, 2024 - Down to Egypt

JULY 26TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Friday, July 26, 2024 - Down to Egypt

Most of us would agree that a promise is only as good as the person who made it. But what if the One making the promise is God? Genesis 46 records the final time God appeared to Jacob. Here God reaffirmed many of the promises He had made over the years.

As Jacob set out for Egypt, he paused at Beersheba at the southern border of Canaan and offered sacrifices to the Lord (v. 1). During an earlier famine, God had forbidden Isaac from traveling to Egypt for relief (Gen. 26:2).

Perhaps Jacob wondered if going to Egypt was the right decision. Should he leave the land God had promised Abraham?

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

That night, God appeared to Jacob to provide affirmation (v. 2). Not only was it acceptable for Jacob to travel to Egypt, but God would be with him (v. 4). God was not bound by geography. God also revealed something else. Egypt would be the place where Jacob's family would grow to become a great nation (v. 3). God had promised to Abraham that his descendants would become a great nation (Gen. 12:1–3). Up to this point, they were just one family living among many other nations. But in Egypt, Jacob's family would grow and thrive.

Egyptian culture was quite a bit different than Canaan. In Canaan, shepherding was one of the primary occupations, and it was respected. In Egypt, shepherds were despised (v. 34). This allowed Jacob and his family to live separately and maintain their distinct identity even through generations of living in Egypt.

As he had done in the past, Jacob believed God's promises and moved forward in faith (v. 5). God has made promises to believers today as well: We are filled with His Spirit, Jesus is with us even to the end of the age (Matt. 28:20), and He is coming again.

Go Deeper

Why can we place absolute trust in God's promises? What would it look like for you to move forward in faith, based on all that God has promised?

Pray with Us: Almighty God, Your promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are true even today. As we thank You for their legacy, we pray that our own stories will leave a legacy of faith to the

next generation.

LAST UPDATED ON JULY 26TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vjqn/Daily-Devotional--Friday-July-26-2024--Down-to-Egypt>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:



SUBSCRIBE TO "FAITH MATTERS"

ShowMe Gold Sponsors