My Soul’s Stead

Job 16:4 I also could speak as ye do: if your soul were in **my soul's stead**, I could heap up words against you, and shake mine head at you.

Job 16:17 Not for any injustice in mine hands: also my prayer is pure. H 11:1 prayer needs faith

Ac 24:16 And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

There is infirmities, weaknesses and failures but not **injustice**

Job 16:12 I was at **ease**, but he hath broken me asunder: he hath also taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces, and set me up for his mark.

13 His archers compass me round about, he cleaveth my reins asunder, and doth not spare; he poureth out my gall upon the ground.

Job 7:20 I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself?

Job 40:4 Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.

From a sinner’s Prayer to an effectual fervent Prayer that avails much.

**Our Soul defines our Prayer, but our Prayer refines our Soul. To be Pure**

**There is a close connection between our Soul and our Prayer.**

**There is a close connection between our words and our Prayer.**

**There is a close connection between our tongue and our temper.**

It’s hard to be a comfort to others if your heart is cold and bitter.

It’s equally hard if your heart is enflamed with rage and anger.

(Pride, Prejudice, Persecution and Rejection) or **Pain** and suffering

Pain does things to people. Rom. 8:18-22; Rev.12:2; Mic. 5:3

1Thes. 3:3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:

Job 34:6 Should I lie against my right? my wound is incurable without transgression.

Job was of the opinion that what was happening was not his fault at all.

Can you say that truthfully?

Job felt like God had no cause to allow these things to happen to him.

Job felt like his friends had no right to say the things that they were saying.

What were they saying? (Not a deep dialogue) Just a few ideas

Job 15:1 Then answered Eliphaz the Temanite, and said,

11 Are the consolations of God small with thee? is there any secret thing with thee?

4:5 But now it is come upon thee, and thou faintest; it toucheth thee, and thou art troubled.

4:7 Remember, I pray thee, who ever perished, being innocent? or where were the righteous cut off?

5:1 Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn?

8 I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:

Bildad 8:2 How long wilt thou speak these things? and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?

8:5 If thou wouldest seek unto God betimes, and make thy supplication to the Almighty;

Job 16:3 Shall vain words have an end? or what emboldeneth thee that thou answerest?

Job 19:2 How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words?

20:1 Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and said,

5 That the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment?

21:7 Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?

“if your soul were in my soul's stead”

(Job’s opinion)There is (not) a cause for my soul’s stead. (?) Condition

Looking upon

Job’s friends were looking upon him.Job’s wife. Job was looking upon self

Job looked on them like they looked on him. (not in a good state)

v.2 Miserable comforters – like the messengers in chapter one.

Job 6:15 My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away; (they come and they go)

Job 13:4 But ye are forgers of lies, ye are all physicians of no value.

v.4 I also could speak as ye do I could heap up words against you

v.4 I could shake mine head at you

v.5 But I would strengthen you with my mouth --- Heartless words

v.5 The moving of my lips should asswage your grief --- lip service, Lip balm

Lip comfort, (talk can seem cheap) Words; life and death in power, tongue

(The Irony of Job’s speech is Loud, clear and consistent with what is today)

Job finds things to be more difficult through affliction. But by Faith in God’s Word He is learning the right ways of doing things. God’s Will God’s Way Jm.5:13;16; II Thes.1:11

Looking without. vv. 6-22

16:6 Though I speak, my grief is not asswaged” (If I answer for myself- I receive no comfort) “and though I forbear, what am I eased?” (If I give no answer) for myself I am looked at as guilty.

7 But now he hath made me weary: thou hast made desolate all my company.

8 And thou hast filled me with wrinkles, which is a witness against me: and my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face. 6:11; 19:6 net

12 I was at ease, but he hath broken me asunder: he hath also taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces, and set me up for his mark.

16 My face is foul with weeping, and on my eyelids is the shadow of death;

God wants every bit of fear, unbelief, selfishness, slothfulness ---out

Heb 12:27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Looking within

How sympathetic are you to one’s soul?

How sensitive are you to someone’s need?

How understanding are you of what is happening to you?

It is happening to you for a reason.

If you were really experiencing what I am going through you would see me differently.

If you were in my place, my case, my space, my race

Physically, Mentally Condition Position Tradition

Socially, Spiritually State in Time Color

If you were in my place and I was in your place I would treat you with a lot of words before; but now by faith in God’s Word.

My soul’s stead --- That which was Job’s true condition? They didn’t know, what or why,

* He didn’t even know.
* I also could speak as ye do:
* I could heap up words against you, and shake mine head at you.

Taking the place of another --- Substitute, Scapegoat, Living Sacrifice, Epistle, Ambassador

Does your soul connect with the Saviour in Prayer? Intercessor

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

Job 33:14 For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not

Job 33:29 Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with man,

1Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 5:9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the **same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren** that are in the world. 10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. Job 42:5-10

Job found himself in a situation that only faith in God was going to get him through.

The Lord will take up your cause when you trust Him.

Job 35:10 But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night; (Jm.5:13)

Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

Job 35:14 Although thou sayest thou shalt not see him, yet judgment is before him; therefore trust thou in him.

* Be a monument of his mercy, rather than monument of his justice.

Job 39:11 Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him?

Job 16:10 They have gaped upon me with their mouth; they have smitten me upon the cheek reproachfully; they have gathered themselves together against me.

Ps 22:13 They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion.

Micah 5:1 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

Mat. 27:30 And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.

Ps 9:10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

Ps 9:16 The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

Ps 92:3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound. Ps 19:14; Lam.:3:62 higgayown (4x’s) Selah (73x’s)

He makes the wicked become their own executioners.

if the Lord be known by the judgment which he executeth; then, the judgment which he executeth must be known; it must be an open judgment; and there are many judgments of God

Ge 18:25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

La 3:12 He hath bent his bow, and set me as a mark for the arrow.

Ps 38:2 For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.

Ps 30:7 LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, and I was troubled. {made...: Heb. settled strength for my mountain}

Job 19:7 Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment.

* God responds to faith.

Job 16:12 **I was at ease**, but he hath broken me asunder: he hath also taken me **by my neck**, and shaken me to pieces, and **set me up** for his mark.

Ps 102:10 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.

shaken--violently; in contrast to his former "ease". Set me up (again).

Job 10:16 For it increaseth. Thou huntest me as a fierce lion: and again thou shewest thyself marvellous upon me. “by my neck”--as an animal does its prey

Job 7:20 I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself?

Job 9:17 For he breaketh me with a tempest, and multiplieth my wounds without cause.

2Ti 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Ro 1:5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Ro 4:16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Ro 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Ro 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Ro 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

2Co 8:7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

1Ti 1:2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

1Ti 1:14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

1Ti 6:21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen