Ps 41:11 By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

We should give more attention to the cause of God than anything else.

The true cause is not always what we are fighting but what we are fighting for.

Eph 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Col 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Job 29:16 …”the cause which I knew not I searched out.”

1. Put off

•  selfishness

•  self-centeredness

•  self-seeking

•  centered on this world

•  centered on the flesh

•  centered on this life

* Centered on yourself

Eph 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

1. Its not just putting on after putting off nor a putting off and a putting on again, again and again but being renewed as you put on.
2. Put on New
3. Put on New and be renewed

In the Spirit of your mind

In Knowledge of Him

God would have the righteous see **hurting** people not just problem people.

Is there not a cause as well?

Col 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

“Singing”

**Rejoicing**

Job 29:2 Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me;

3 When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;

4 As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle;

5 When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;

De 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the LORD thy God chasteneth thee.

6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.

The cause (of our past experiences) serves only as a rudder to direct us to trust God again rather than an anchor to hold us to the past.

One of the most difficult chapters in your life is how to grow old gracefully.

All that he valued seemed to be gone forever.

* + 1. The great joy and blessings of the past. 1-6
    2. The great joy and respect from others. 7-11
    3. The great joy and ministry to others. 12-17
    4. The great joy and hope of a future. 18-20
    5. The great joy and comfort for all. 21-25

Ac 4:36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation, an encourager) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

Job 29:25 I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.

He was a leader who helped many people make wise decisions to come out or to avoid going into bad situations just by understanding and choosing God’s cause.

Searching to fulfill the cause of the poor.

Job 29:16 **I was a father to the poor:** and the cause which I knew not I searched out.

Job 29:16 …”the cause which I knew not I searched out.”

Job 29:16 …”the cause which I knew not I searched out.”

Job 29:16 …”the cause which I knew not I searched out.”

Ex 23:3 Neither shalt thou countenance a poor man in his cause.

Ex 23:6 Thou shalt not wrest the judgment of thy poor in his cause.

The “poor man in his cause”.

* Don’t countenance him when he is bad.
* Don’t condemn him when he is good.

“I was a father to the poor”

A Poor Rich Man

James 2:5*—Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the* ***poor*** *of this world* ***rich in faith****, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?*

**A Wise Gentlemen** *instead of a real wise guy*

James 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Gen. 45:8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but **God**: and he hath **made me a father to Pharaoh**, and **lord** of all **his house**, and a **ruler** throughout all the land of Egypt.

Php 2:22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel

1Thess. 2:11 As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,

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

5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;

2Cor. 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

Heb 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

The chastening is a sign that a searching is going on, if we could only stand still and move with Him.