



Sunday, November 11, 2018  
Pastor Don Denyes

## **Intro to Job 19:23-27**

Everyone wants to be validated. Watch any talent competition on TV and most often the contestants will say they are competing to be validated and let the world know they can be successful and deserve respect in whatever field they're competing in. The problem for most TV competitors is that they don't deserve that validation. But imagine a more serious setting. Imagine being Job and being accused left and right that your suffering must be the result of your own sin. Certainly, you and I would want validation that it is not because of our sin that we are suffering that way.

That is exactly where Job finds himself by chapter 19. His friends have been relentless in accusing him in conversations that seem to circle around the same points: God is just, man is sinful, therefore suffering is always a result of God's just judgment on man's sin. But we know this isn't always the case. Job knew his friends wouldn't validate his frustration because they couldn't see past their own accusations. But Job knew that God would ultimately validate him and be his Redeemer. For those of us who know Jesus, we know that He suffered unjustly for us in order that we who deserve to suffer infinitely might experience new life.

## **Context**

This passage falls in the second "cycle" of questioning by Job's friends. The themes are similar to the first cycle, but as Pastor Don noted, that could in part reflect the fact that we wrestle with the same questions over and over when we suffer. At this point, Job is right in the thick of it. After the second cycle finishes (21:34), there will be a third cycle of character-questioning before Elihu intervenes and ultimately God Himself. That is a helpful clue to us as well as we slog through the book—that in our suffering we must learn to endure in the monotonous day-to-day while we await our ultimate vindication from God.

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Job 19:23-27

“Job’s Confidence”

Key Ideas

- 1) The Book of Job is so long because our trials are long.
- 2) The book is repetitive because when we suffer, the same questions arise again and again.
- 3) What do you do when you get to your darkest hour?
- 4) Job reflects on the brevity of life (14:1-10).
- 5) He hopes for a mediator (9:33; 16:19-21).
- 6) He wants his words written down (19:23-24).
- 7) He knows that God will be His redeemer (19:25).
- 8) He is confident of His existence (cf. Heb. 11:1, 6).
- 9) He is confident of His coming.
- 10) He is confident of a personal encounter.
- 11) “Never doubt in the darkness what God has taught you in the light.” – Bob Jones Sr.

## **Discuss**

- 1) In what area of your life are you most confident? Why?
- 2) What is it about suffering that shakes our confidence?
- 3) How does knowing Christ re-shape the way we think about our suffering?
- 4) Read 1 John 3:1-3. If we are confident that Christ is going to appear, how should we be living in the meantime?
- 5) Does your life reflect the fact that you're going to meet Jesus face-to-face someday? Why or why not?