Studies in Job – Part 9: "Though He Slay Me, Yet Will I Trust Him" Job 13:15

Job's faith is purified in the fire.

One of the truly great "confessions of faith" to be found in the Scriptures!

Overview of the Chapter:

Job's Rebuttal of his friends vv. 1-14 Job's Confession of faith vv. 15-16 Job's Renewed Appeal to God vv. 17-28

1. The Furnace of Testing

- (1) Job suffers greatly and cannot make any sense of his suffering.
- (2) Job's friends have continued to press him, alleging that he must be in sin, else all these things would not have come upon him.
 - Thus Job again rebuts them! vv. 2, 4, 5, 9, 12
- (3) Job feels that God has abandoned him or worse, that God is against him!

2. The Outcome

- (1) The "Dross" of Sin
- Some sin will commonly be seen "coming to the surface" in every true test!
- Such "dross" is seen in proper perspective only by those of faith.
 - It is not to be excused!
 - But neither is it representative of the true man.
- That "dross" can be seen in Job's continued appeal to God:
 - -"Why do I take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in my hands?" v. 14 i.e., Why should I attempt to preserve my life?
 - "Behold, I have prepared my case; I know that I shall be in the right." v. 18 Job justifies himself rather than God.
 - "Why do you hide your face and count me as your enemy?" v. 24 i.e., You are against me, I know not why!
 - "Will you frighten a driven leaf and pursue dry chaff?" v. 25 i.e., I am nothing; why do you keep pressing me?

(2) The "Pure Metal" of Faith: Job's Confession

-1- It is an Imperfect Expression!

- It is tainted with sin.

"Though he slay me, I will hope in him; yet I will argue my ways to his face. This will be my salvation,

vv. 15-16

that the godless shall not come before him."

- He speaks out of his pain and frustration!
- He speaks from a mistaken sense that God is against him.
- Job speaks "out of the shadows" of OT revelation
 - He was still longing for a mediator one who could assist in bringing him before God
 - He did not know the full gospel comforts and intimacy which we enjoy.
 - He is in large measure afraid of this awesome God. vv. 20-21
- -2- But its Foundational Elements are those of True Faith!

[1] Job will trust in God whatever may befall him!

"Though he slay me, I will hope in him"

An expression of perfect resignation.

"Whatever He may do to me, I will hope in Him."

"Though He ultimately may kill me, I will hope in Him, trust in Him."

[2] God will ultimately vindicate Job – and all of his saints – as His own, distinguishing between the righteous and the godless.

Further Application:

- 1. When a man is severely tested, we see more fully what is in him.
- 2. When a man is severely tested, he knows himself better and he knows God better.
- 3. Every Christian has such testing personal testing from God (discipline).
- 4. Every true Christian makes this same confession that Job makes