

GOD'S TOUCHPOINTS

Old Testament Summary

The Patriarchal Ages

The Judges

The Reign of Royalty

The Prophetic Era

Old Testament (OT) Journey

Lesson 4: The World in Confusion - Babel

OT Walkthru- The Patriarchal Ages

1. OT Summary
2. Adam – A Fallen Faith
3. Noah – Surviving Faith
4. ***The World in Confusion – Babel***
5. Job – Faith under Fire
6. Abraham – Soaring Faith
7. Isaac – Winging Faith
8. Jacob – Clinging Faith
9. Joseph – Unwavering Faith
10. God's Direct Interventions in Genesis
11. God's Special Interventions in Genesis
12. Moses – Humbled Faith
13. Israel – Leanness of Soul
14. God's Commandments



The World in Confusion – Babel

Presentation Overview

- Objectives
- Standards falling
 - Irony of Noah
 - Folly of Ham/ Canaan
 - Tyranny of Nimrod
- Babel growing
- God controlling
- Discussion – Self exaltation in our lives

Note: Additional reference material is available in the Notes section of this presentation.

Objective

To understand the danger of:

- Self righteous over-confidence
- Self exaltation
- Not aligning with God's purpose

Standards Falling Irony of Noah

- Read Gen 9:18-29
- When the world around is drinking Noah is sober
- When all around are sober, Noah drinks.

“Let him who thinks he stands **take heed lest he fall.**” 1 Cor 10:12



Standards Falling Folly of Ham/ Canaan

²⁴ When **Noah awoke from his wine** and knew what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵ he said,

“Cursed be Canaan;
a servant of servants
shall he be to his brothers.”

Gen 9

- Canaan cursed, Shem and Japheth blessed. Ham gets neither
- Canaan emerges a strong nation and eventual oblivion.



Video Clip – Pride before a fall

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HY3SQ5C22mY>

Standards Falling

Tyranny of Nimrod

Read Gen 10:6-10

Nimrod has been described in various sources as:

- "a powerful rebel before the Lord" [1]
- "powerful in hunting in sin before the Lord"[2]
- "a mighty hunter, because he was all his days taking provinces by force, and spoiling others of their substance" [3]



Standards Falling Tyranny of Nimrod – Cont'd...

Read Gen 10:6-10

"before the Lord" does not mean on behalf of the Lord, it means, openly and publicly, and without fear of him, and in a bold and impudent manner see Genesis 6:11 as "against the Lord" – [4]



Babel Growing

The Greek form of Babylon means “Gate of the god”.

The Hebrew name for the tower Babel means to confuse or confound.

Read Gen 11:4-9



God Controlling

God is in control. He:

- Broke the objective of powerful men
- Dispersed them – a mild response to a strong offence.
- Is also in control of the micro events in our lives.



Some Important Locations in OT



Discussion - Self Exaltation in Our Lives

- What could have been the cause of Noah's falling? What do we learn?
- "Let us make a name for ourselves (Gen 11:4)"...the most alluring temptation of all. Self exaltation in the place of God glorification. In what forms does this temptation lure us today?
- How do we overcome it?
- How do we handle the "Nimrod" type superpowers threatening us?

References

1. Targum of Jonathan
2. Targum of Jerusalem
3. Jewish writer
4. Septuagint

GOD'S TOUCHPOINTS

Old Testament Summary

The Patriarchal Ages

The Judges

The Royal Verses

Prophets, Priests and Kings

Old Testament (OT) Journey

Lesson 5: Job – Faith under Fire

OT Walkthru- The Patriarchal Ages

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Job – Faith under fire

Presentation Overview

- Objectives
- Job – Chronologically in the Bible
- Authorship of Job
- Job's Disposition in Abundance
 - Presence of God
 - Purity and Integrity
 - Providence of God
- Job's Disposition in Emptiness
 - Prayers of Faith
 - Protests
 - Big Picture of God – Dragons and Dinosaurs
- Discussion
- References

Note: Additional reference material is available in the Notes section of this presentation



Objectives

To:

- Understand Job's secret in overcoming the most hazardous temptations
- Learn how he handled adversity and prosperity
- Gain a bigger perspective of God

Authorship of Job

Language and use of Yahweh in prologue, divine discourses and epilogue (not conversations) indicates authorship was probably not Job or his friends but an Israelite. Job's tenure was pre-Israel formation and Yahweh came later. [1]

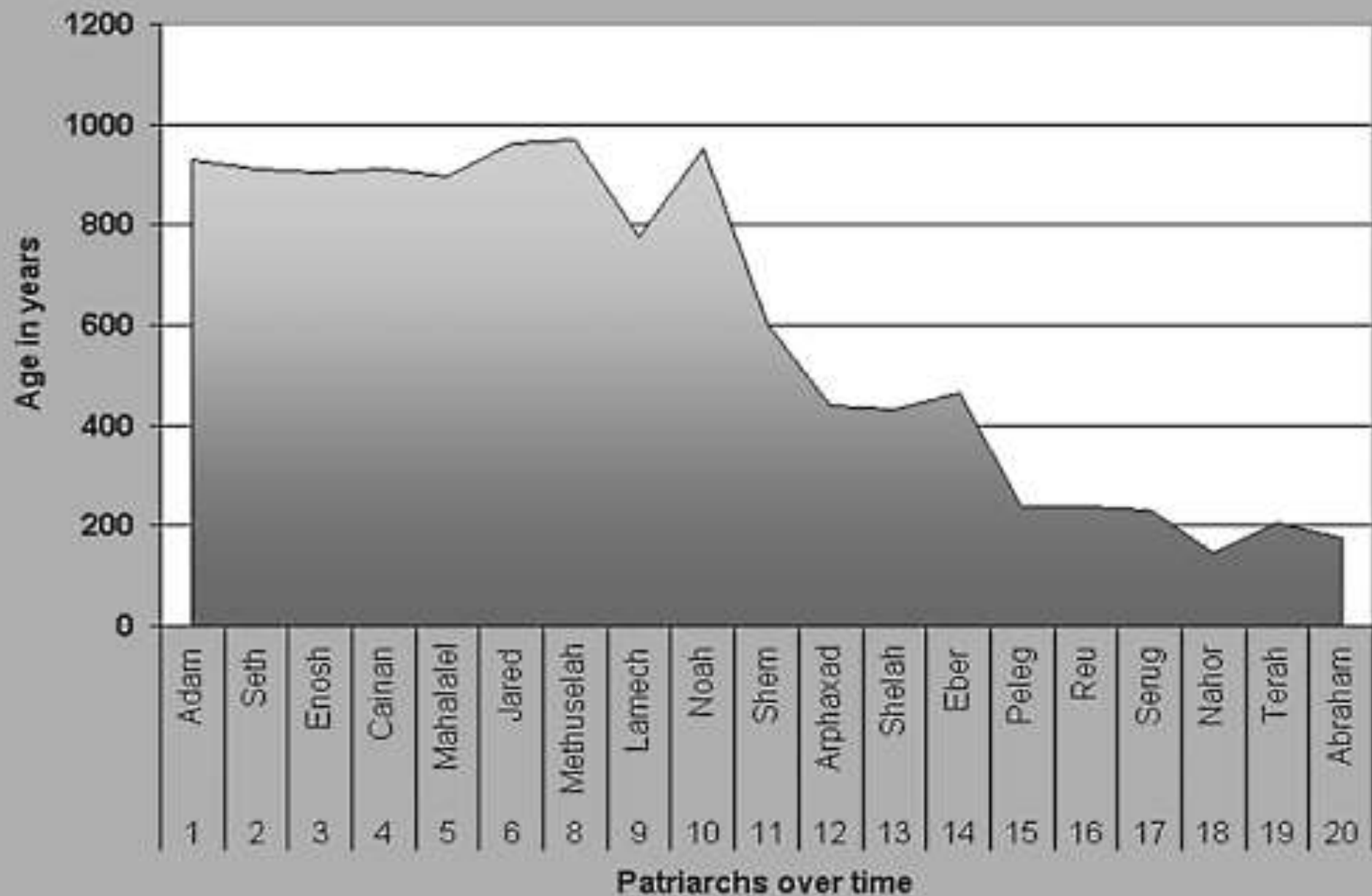
Job Chronologically in the Bible

When was the book of Job written?

History of the Bible writing Timeline:

- Earliest Scriptures handed down orally.
- B.C. 2000 – Creation
- B.C. 2000-1500 - Job, perhaps the oldest.
- B.C. 1500-1400 - Ten Commandments given to Moses at Mount Sinai and later stored in the Ark of the Covenant.
- B.C. 1400–400 - 39 Old Testament books are completed. kept in the tabernacle and later in the Temple beside the Ark of the covenant [1]

Decline in Ages at Death



Job's Disposition

- In abundance
- Presence of God
- Purity and integrity
- Providence of God
- In emptiness
- Prayers of Faith
- Protests
- Big Picture of God



Presence of God

Job's Final Defense

...² “How I long for the months gone by, for the days when God watched over me,³ when his lamp shone on my head and **by his light I walked** through darkness! ⁴ Oh, for the days when I was in my prime, when God’s **intimate friendship** blessed my house, ⁵ when the Almighty was still with me and my children were around me,⁶ when my path was **drenched with cream** and the rock poured out for me streams of olive oil. (Job 29:2-6)



Purity and Integrity

29 Return, I pray you,
let it not be iniquity; yea,
return again, my
righteousness is in it.

30 **Is there iniquity in
my tongue?** cannot my
taste discern perverse
things? (Job 6:29,30)



Purity and Integrity

²³ How many wrongs and sins have I committed?
Show me my offense
and my sin (Job 13)

³ As long as I have life within me, the breath of God in my nostrils, ⁴ my lips will not say anything wicked, and my tongue will not utter lies. ⁵ I will never admit you are in the right; **till I die, I will not deny my integrity.**
(Job 27)



Purity and Integrity

“I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman.
2 For what is our lot from God above, our heritage from the Almighty on high

6 **let God weigh me** in honest scales and he will know that I am blameless—7 if my steps have turned from the path, if my heart has been led by my eyes, or if my hands have been defiled,
8 then may others eat what I have sown, and may my crops be uprooted. (Job 31:1,2,6-8)

How do we control our thoughts? What are the consequences of controlling our thoughts?



Activity

On paper write what are negative thoughts you have. Fold and put it in box (passed around by leader)

Leader opens and discusses.

Leader asks members to tear negative papers and throw in garbage bag

Now write positive thoughts and share.

Pray over each stronghold that Satan brings them down

Providence of God

“When I went to the gate of the city and took my seat in the public square,⁸ the young men saw me and stepped aside and the **old men rose to their feet**; ⁹ the chief men refrained from speaking and covered their mouths with their hands; ¹⁰ the voices of the nobles were hushed, and their tongues stuck to the roof of their mouths. ¹¹ **Whoever heard me spoke well of me**, and those who saw me commended me, ¹² because I rescued the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to assist them. Job 29



Providence of God

18 “I thought, ‘I will die in my own house, my days as numerous as the grains of sand. 19 My roots will reach to the water, and the dew will lie all night on my branches.

20 **My glory will not fade**; the bow will be ever new in my hand.’ 21 “People listened to me expectantly, waiting in silence for my counsel.

22 **After I had spoken, they spoke no more**; Job 29

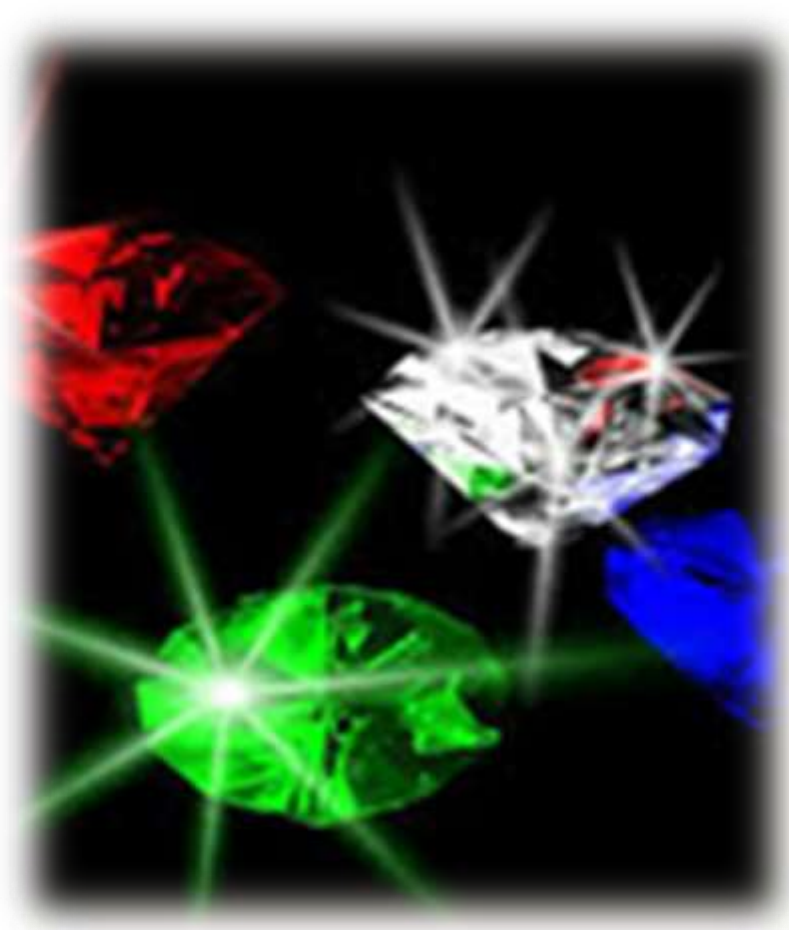


Prayers of Faith

20 At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said:

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. **The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away**; may the name of the Lord be praised.” (Job 1:20,21)

22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing. (Job 1:22)



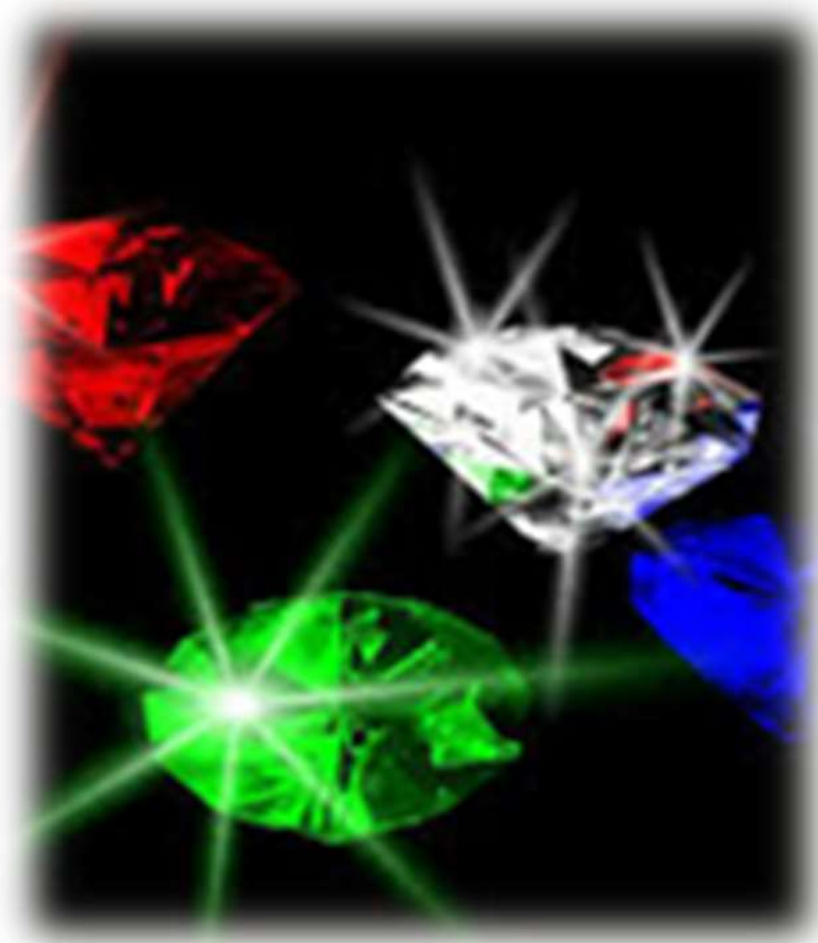
Prayers of Faith

There is a **mine for silver** and a **place where gold is refined.**

(Job 28:1)

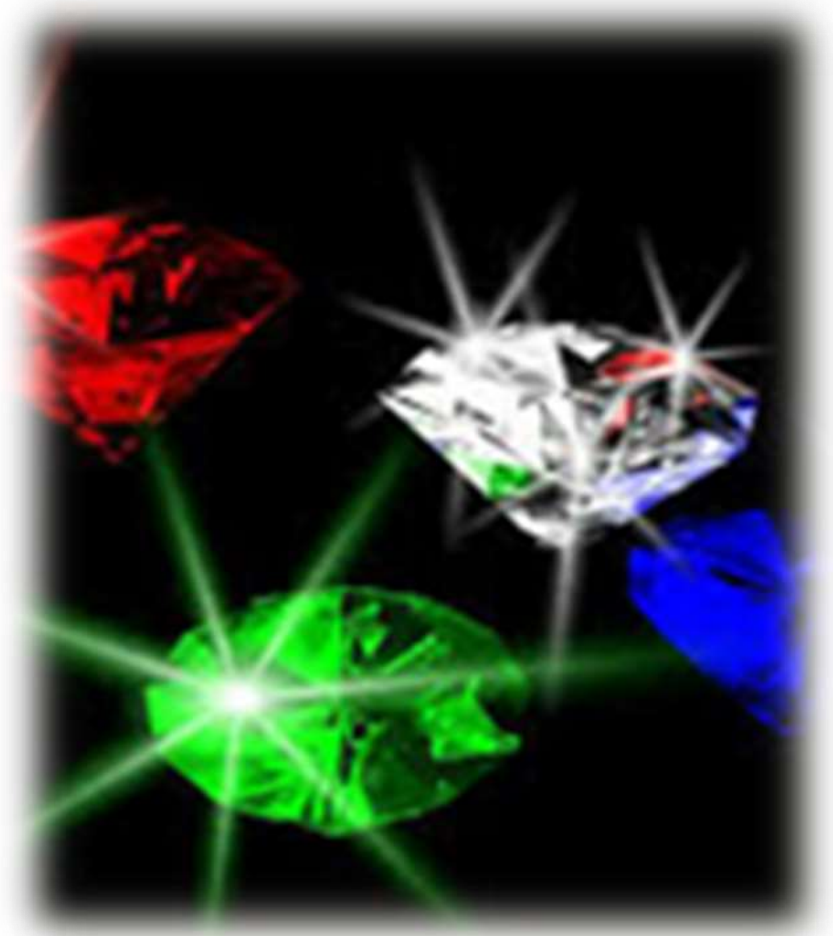
But he knows the way that I take; **when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.**

(Job 23:10)



Prayers of Faith

“The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.”
(Job 28:28)

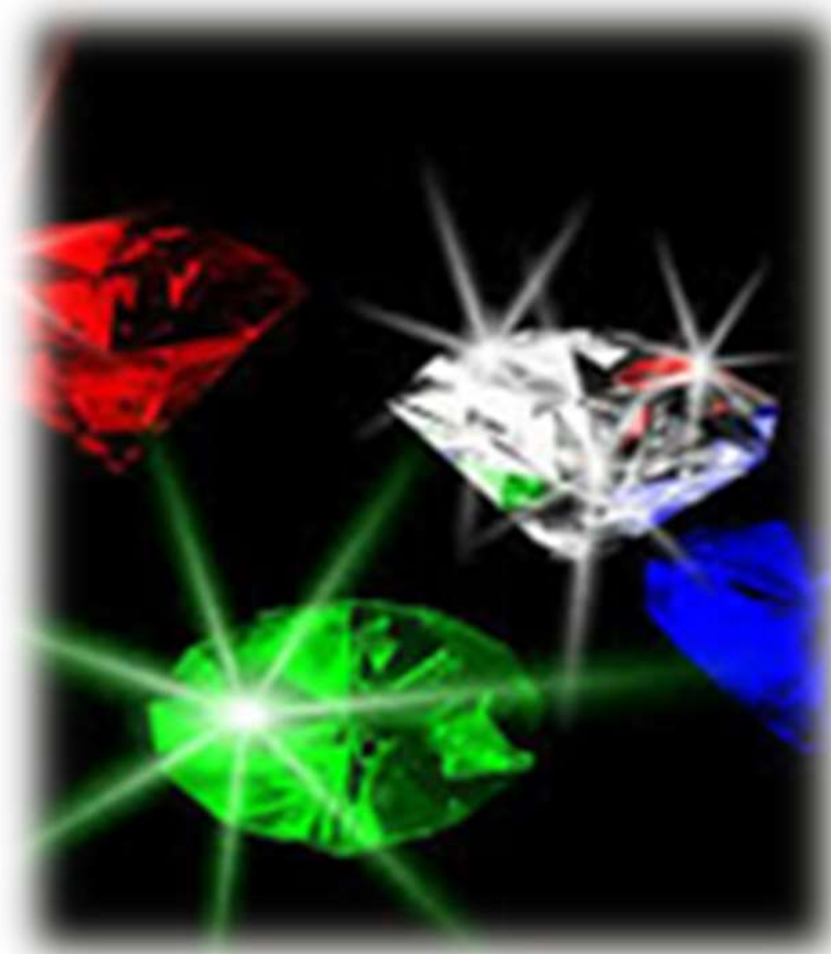


Prayers of Faith

**Though he slay me,
yet will I hope in him;**

I will surely defend
my ways to his face.
Indeed, this will turn out
for my deliverance,

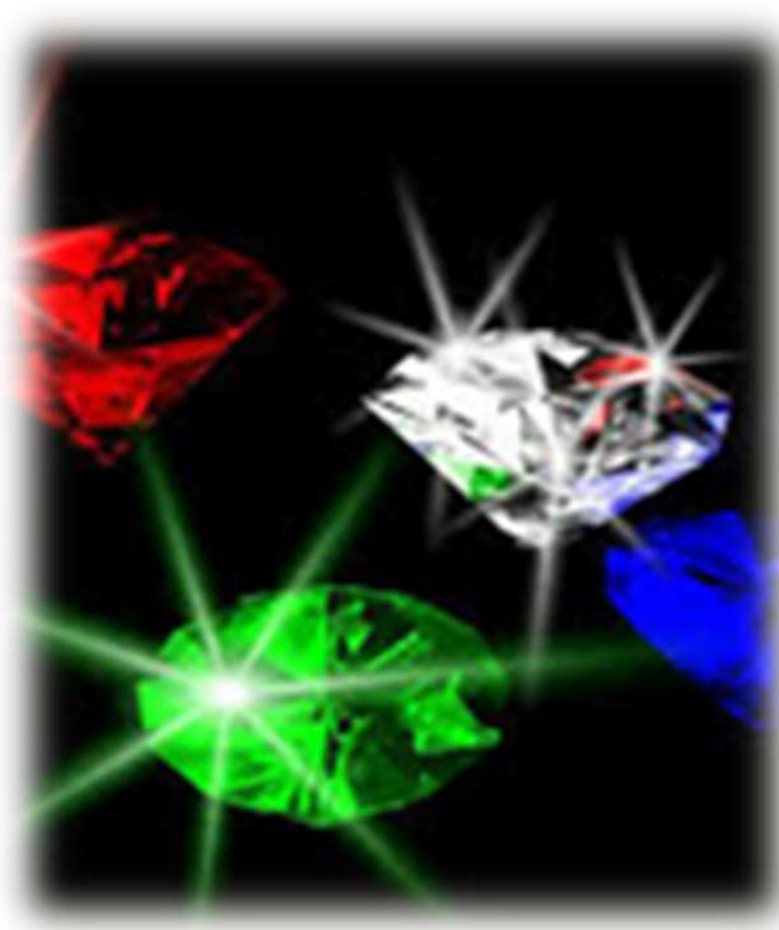
for no godless person
would dare come before
him (Job 13:15,16)



Prayers of Faith

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; **I myself will see him** with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!(Job 19:25-27)



Job Protests

32 For **he is not a man, as I am, that I might answer him**, that we should come to trial together.

33 **There is no umpire between us**, who might lay his hand upon us both.

34 Let him take his rod away from me, and let not dread of him terrify me.

35 Then I would speak without fear of him, for I am not so in myself. (Job 9:32-35- RSV)



Video clip – Duty of a Christian

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQ5IlwWu5fs>

Coming up:

On Dragons and Dinosaurs..

Big Picture of God - Leviathan

Can you pull in Leviathan with a fishhook or tie down its tongue with a rope? 2 Can you put a cord through its nose or pierce its jaw with a hook? ...5 Can you make a pet of it like a bird or put it on a leash for the young women in your house?...

10 No one is fierce enough to rouse it. **Who then is able to stand against me?**



Big Picture of God - Leviathan

18 Its **snorting throws out flashes of light**; its eyes are like the rays of dawn. 19 **Flames stream from its mouth**; sparks of fire shoot out. 20 **Smoke pours from its nostrils** as from a boiling pot over burning reeds. 21 Its **breath sets coals ablaze**, and flames dart from its mouth.



Big Picture of God - Leviathan

26 The sword that reaches it has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin.

27 Iron it treats like straw and bronze like rotten wood.

28 Arrows do not make it flee; slingstones are like chaff to it.

29 A club seems to it but a piece of straw; it laughs at the rattling of the lance.

33 **Nothing on earth is its equal**— a creature without fear.

34 It looks down on all that are haughty; it is king over all that are proud.”



Big Picture of God - Behemoth

“Look at Behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox.

16 **What strength** it has in its loins, **what power** in the muscles of its belly!

17 Its tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are close-knit.

18 Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like rods of iron.



Big Picture of God - Behemoth

19 It ranks **first among the works of God**, yet its Maker can approach it with his sword...

22 The lotuses conceal it in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround it.

23 A raging river does not alarm it; it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth.

24 Can anyone capture it by the eyes, or trap it and pierce its nose? (Gen 40)



Discussion

1. Job did not sin but he erred. Where was his error?
What caused it?
2. What was the sin of his friends?
3. How do we risk facing these issues today?

**Job had such a pure life, he could challenge God to find fault with him in the most vulnerable areas – thoughts and the tongue
Are we righteous enough to pose God such a challenge?**

References

1. Christianity.about.com
2. Zondervan