



Before the THRONE
The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Job 13:15 – 16

“Though He slays me, yet will I trust Him; but I will defend my ways before Him. He also shall be my salvation; for a hypocrite shall not come before Him.” Job 13:15-16

It is far easier looking from the outside in, or from making a decision with today’s perspective on yesterday, isn’t it? We must remember that Job was experiencing this great trial in real time! Unlike our vantage point of knowing that this trial, while God permitted, was perpetrated by the devil. Job did not have that understanding or that keen spiritual insight. Yet in spite of his information deficiency his faith burns bright. His friends have begun their interrogation of him, accusing him of sin that surely has brought on him such horrible testing. And the world’s system which lies under condemnation because of man’s fall intuitively tells us that on some level our problems spring from our sin.

“Beloved, if our hearts condemn us not, then we have confidence toward God.” (1 John 3:21) The Christian believer should have such confidence toward God as Job possessed. It is the indwelling Spirit Who convicts of sin. (John 16:8) How critical it is then that we learn the voice of the Spirit’s conviction contrasted with the voice of condemnation. Is it possible to distinguish the two? Most assuredly! Condemnation offers you no way out, no way of escape, no encouragement to change, and no promise of mercy. But when the Spirit comes with His convicting power He always provides a way of escape from the guilt and burden of sin. He encourages the sinner with hope and releases us from sin’s hold by the Blood of Christ.

You too, may be facing real trials in real time, just as Job did. And while in those moments it is hard to process all the facts, it is still possible to emerge with a victorious faith.

“I may not understand what is happening to me right now, but this one thing I know, the Spirit bears witness within my heart – I am forgiven of my sin, I am loved of God and somehow, someday, He will bring me through! Therefore, should I even face death; I will place my hope and confidence in the Lord!”

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