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Sermon by Prophet Kobus van Rensburg

SUPPLICATIONS FOR THE SAINTS

Job was a very great, righteous, wealthy, prosperous, successful man. He lost everything he had and at the end of his life he gained twice as much as he lost, but between the first and the last chapters, many things happened.

Job 29:1-10 1Moreover Job continued his parable, and said, 2Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved. When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness; 4As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle; 5When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me; 6When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil; 7When I went out to the gate through the city, when I prepared my seat in the street! 8The young men saw me, and hid themselves: and the aged arose, and stood up. 9The princes refrained talking, and laid their hand on their mouth. 10The nobles held their peace, and their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth.

Job was some kind of a man: The nobles, the kings, the princes - no matter how big and mighty they were - whenever Job came in the street, hushed and put their hands on their mouths saying, 'Here comes Job!' In Chapter 29 he says: "I wish I were like that again. I wish I had my children with me; I wish I were as prosperous as I was." Take note of every word we read:

Job 29:11-23 11When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me: 12Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. 13The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. 14I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem. 15I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. 16I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out. 17And I break the jaws of the wicked, and plucked the spoil out of his teeth. 18Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand. 19My root was spread out by the waters, and the dew lay all night upon my branch. 20My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand. 21Unto me men gave ear, and waited, and kept silence at my counsel. 22After my words they spake not again; and my speech dropped upon them. 23And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain.



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Whenever he spoke it was like times of refreshing that came upon them. We find these words in Colossians: "Let your words always be seasoned with salt." and Ephesians says: "Let your words bring edification whenever you speak."

Job 29:24 If I laughed on them, they believed it not; and the light of my countenance they cast not down.

No matter how people felt, it did not do anything to Job's joy. No matter who the people were, or what emotional state they were in (they could've been depressed or down trodden), but when Job entered their presence he was the one who ruled. He was the one that was above circumstances; He was the one who knew who he was in God Almighty.

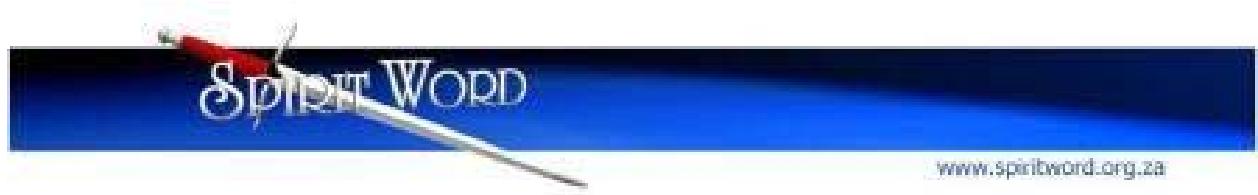
Job 29:25 I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners. But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock.

Now Job says that the children of these people over whom he ruled, looks down on him!

Job 30:7-10 7Among the bushes they brayed; under the nettles they were gathered together. 8They were children of fools, yea, children of base men: they were viler than the earth. 9And now am I their song, yea, I am their byword. 10 They abhor me, they flee far from me, and spare not to spit in my face.

We have all at some time wondered why things could not be as they were. What has happened to this and what has happened to that? Job was really on top of everything, there was no one higher than him and now he says the lowest look down on him and he thought back: 'Where's the days of my youth?' 'Where are the days where my words brought refreshing?'

Job 29:14 - Clothe yourself with righteousness and Job 29:22-23- My words were like refreshing rain, showers. Job 30:1 - But now... they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock.



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WHY JOB FELL.

Job 1:1,7-8 1There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil 7And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 8And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

God says that there's no one like Job. He was upright and blameless, but... what happened to our brother Job that he lost everything? From chapter 29, Job says I was, I did, I...

Job 3:20-26 Wherefore is light given to him that is in misery, and life unto the bitter in soul; 21Which long for death, but it cometh not; and dig for it more than for hid treasures; 22Which rejoice exceedingly, and are glad, when they can find the grave? 23Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in? 24For my sighing cometh before I eat, and my roarings are poured out like the waters. 25For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. 26I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.

In Job 29, he thought back, asking: "Where is it now? Where is everything that went so well?" If we read Job 3 he said: "I sigh, I groan, I moan, I wish I was dead, I wish I didn't exist...why isn't my life taken away from this earth? Why am I here? What am I doing? Why am I? What am I? Before I eat I moan, before I go to bed I groan, before I do this, I moan..." This was all because of FEAR.

Job said that his prayer life was fear motivated and not faith motivated. Fear and faith are two opposite forces. If you pray because you fear something, you don't get an answer. If you pray because you're faith motivated you will get an answer. Why don't you just get peace first? If you pray and you're fear driven you will be sighing, moaning and groaning and you will not get an answer and because of your fear, these words will proceed from your mouth: 'Where



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are the days when I was like this and like that...?' Job's whole prayer life was shaped by groaning and moaning about himself.

WRONG CANNOT BE RIGHT

Job was so motivated by fear and all he saw was that things were going worse and worse and worse... but Job was supposed to be the one that the rulers looked up to. The kings had to look up to Job and not down on him.

Ecclesiastes 10:5 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceedeth from the ruler. The error comes because of the ruler's mistake. Whenever there are errors in this world and when things are going wrong, it is because the people who are supposed to rule are not ruling.

Ecclesiastes 10:6 Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place. Folly means stupidity. The rich people sit in the dust and the people that are in folly sits in dignity and in high places! The people who are nothings, look like they're ruling and the people who have to rule sit on the ashes scratching themselves and the dogs come to lick their soars. Isn't this a picture of Job?

Ecclesiastes 10:7 I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth. It's an error to be in such situation! It's in error to sit in the dust...it's an error to sit and bemoan, begroan and sigh at your situation. It's an error!! You're supposed to be a king. You're supposed to be on that horse's back... you're supposed to be the crown of God's creation....



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We sing the song; 'He's got fire in His eyes and a sword in His hand;

and His riding a white horse across this land

...and we will ride with You and we say Yes,

Yes Lord we will ride with You...

Will we? Or are we sitting, moaning and groaning about our situation? No matter how big your situation is, stand up and realize it is an error and it must be put right - There's an error here, I'm not supposed to sit on this dust heap, and I'm not supposed to sit on these ashes... I'm supposed to rule, I'm supposed to ride on a white horse, I'm supposed to be the one with the sword in my hand, I'm supposed to see people bow down!!!

THE ERROR SET RIGHT

I'm not supposed to bow down before them; I'm supposed to be the ruler, because He washed me with His blood and made me a king and priest unto His God and Father (Revelation 1:5-6).

Romans 5:17 For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

You're supposed to be the ruler; anything else is ERROR. Daniel 7 tells us that the saints shall rule over the kingdom and there shall be no end, neither error in their ruling; but if you read on it doesn't seem like it. It shows that the saints shall be trodden down, conquered and ruled over. The same portion is picked up in Revelation. Daniel saw a vision of what is coming on earth and the saints are the ones who are supposed to rule. The kingdom of God doesn't come with visible signs; the kingdom of God is within you. The Our Father prayer says: "Let Thy kingdom come..." not "let Thy kingdom go!" Jesus came and He said: "Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand..." and we're supposed to rule in the kingdom as kings. Jesus is the King of the kings. Daniel said that there's coming a kingdom (Daniel 2) - a rock that's coming down from the mountain and it's a kingdom that's going to smash all other kingdoms and there's going to be no end to the rule of this kingdom. In chapter seven we see that the saints will rule in this kingdom and then he says: "I see that the saints are going to be trodden down. They're going to be run over; they're going to be walked over..."



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So the prophetic word is that the saints - the holy people of God - are supposed to rule in the kingdom of God on the earth (Revelation 1&5), but then it looks like these saints are going to be trodden down ... and it's been like that throughout the ages. God choose a group of people and said: "Israel you're going to go through this desert and you're going to conquer every single person." The promises came into being, but the children of Israel were always trodden down and always on the loosing end; but if you read in between the lines, they were on the winning side! Yet, you wonder how it is that they can be winners when they're always losers? In one night God sent His angels, slew a hundred and eighty five thousand people! If you're on God's side look what God can do, but if you want to sigh, moan and groan, look what happened to the house of Israel. God said that not one of them survived because of their moaning, murmuring and groaning about 'I wish I was, I wish I had... where was I? I wish I could be back there...'.

HOW TO TURN THE TIDE

We are not supposed to be in the dust, we're supposed to be the kings on the horses' backs. The prodigal son said: "I will arise and I will go back to my father." Isaiah 60 says: "Arise and shine for your light has come!" There is a thing of getting up, getting right and going on, but many times it feels like you can't get up out of that hole. You know all the answers, you know how to get up, you know you can do it, you know in the past you could get up; but it seems like you just can't break through? "Why can't I just get up? Why can't I just walk out of this situation? "

We've got all this preaching, teachings and all of the Word and yet why don't we get out of this situation? Why are we sitting where Job sat? Why can't we sit where the king sits?

Job 42:1-2 Then Job answered the LORD, and said, 2I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withhold from thee. I know that YOU can do all things!

Job 42:6 Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.



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He said to himself, I now abhor MYSELF. I now repent of all these words and all these errors I fell in. "Lord I repent, forgive me for moaning and groaning and sighing; forgive me for: 'I was this and I was that and I...'"

Job 42:10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

When he prayed... he prayed for HIS FRIENDS! I sigh, because of my situation; groan because of where I'm sitting; moan...and it's all because of fear. I fear this and I fear that and I moan and I groan and I know I was so righteous and I was so good and I was so prosperous and I had this great ministry and I had this and I was so successful and now, oh Lord... But now, sorry Lord, I repent. I abhor myself; I ask forgiveness for everything that I said that was an error. I'm going to turn away from myself and I'm going to start praying for all these other people. Then God announced: "Job it's restoration time! Job it's RESTORATION time, I'm going to give you double as much as you ever had!"

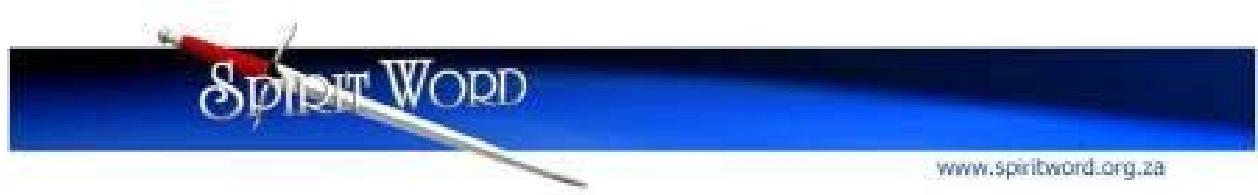
GOD WANTS TO GET HOLD OF OUR TONGUES

God's plan was to give us the Holy Spirit. Isaiah 28:11-12 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, To whom He said, This is the REST wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

Job said that his words were like refreshing rain and showers, now Isaiah 28:12 shows us what the refreshing is: With stuttering words, lips and tongues I will speak; but they will not listen. Paul refers to this when he starts teaching on speaking in other tongues and says: "...for with stuttering lips and with stammering tongues I will speak, but they will not listen..." and then he said: "I thank God that I speak in tongues more than you all."

Why do I speak in tongues?

1 Corinthians 14:2,4 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. These mysteries are directly to God Almighty. 4He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.



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We use tongues to edify ourselves. Many times I see people that walk praying in the Spirit all the time, but when you see them they're always down. I don't know if you've seen it?! Why is it if the Spirit is there to edify that people are not edified? To be edified means that you're on the top and not below; you're above and not beneath; you're the head and not the tail!

In Ephesians 6, Paul talks about the armour of God that we must have on. We must have our feet shod and have the helmet of salvation, but look at the following that is part of the armour:

Ephesians 6:18(a) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...

Job's prayer life was filled with sighing, groaning and moaning and was fear motivated - it was an error. He lost his righteousness, he lost ruling on this earth and he lost being a king! Ephesians tells us to pray at all times in the Spirit! How do I pray in the Spirit? By praying in other tongues. (1 Corinthians 14:2)

THE FOCUS IS ON THE SAINTS

Ephesians 6:18(b) ... and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication FOR ALL SAINTS

We take the first part, but the context is to have the armour - to be on top, to be ruling, to not have the darts of the enemy come to you. We need to take the second part of the scripture too. He says that when I pray in the spirit at all times and with all manners of prayers, my prayer must be for the saints! It's not for the saints as well; it's for the saints! We take the armour for ourselves: "I must, I can, I will, I must be edified" but it's supposed to be for the saints. It's all about the SAINTS.

What was the high priestly prayer of Jesus? Father I pray that THEY may be one, I've given them My glory; like You've given Me, I give to them. I pray that they'll be one as We are one. Father, this is the only way that the world is going to really know (John 17).



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Paul prays for the Ephesian church for the spirit of wisdom and knowledge, and for their eyes to be enlightened to see the mysteries; but have you read the previous verse that tells who he is praying for? It says: "...because I've heard of your love for all the SAINTS, I cease not to pray for YOU."

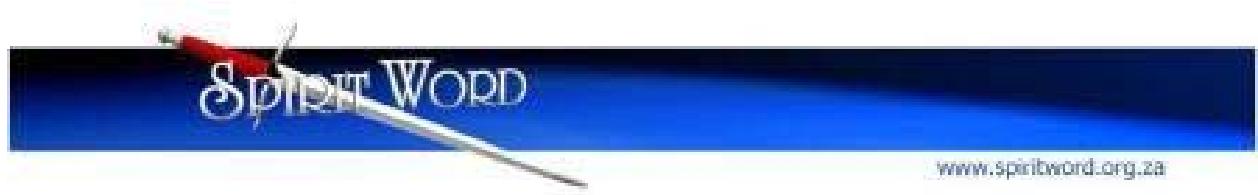
For who? For those who love all the saints.

We want to have the revelation of the city. We are a city that's set on a hill with the length and the breadth and the height and the depth, that's equal. In Ephesians 3 Paul said: I want you to know with all the saints what are the length and the breadth and the height and the depth... So you will not know it by yourself. You can only know it WITH all the saints. If you read the epistles of Paul, he always started with the following: "To the saints and the faithful ones in Christ Jesus." The saints are the set apart and sanctified ones that realise it's a together-thing and not a singular-thing. It is for the saints!

In Romans 8 the words that stand out more than any other are: 'we' and 'us'. Romans 8 is not for 'I' and 'me' or if God be for me; no, if God be for us! What shall we then say ...for those who He foreknew them He predestinated ...God wants to reveal Himself in us, not in me!

Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

We do not really know what we must pray; yet we know what we want to pray! I know what I want, I know what I need, I know where I must get a breakthrough...I know. He who searches the hearts, knows the mind of the Spirit and when we then pray in the Spirit with supplication, we intercede on behalf of the saints according to His will. So when we go into deep intercessory prayer, our aim shouldn't be what we need; our aim is for the saints, because the connotation there is: 'us' and 'we.'



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Our focus must shift from the individual person to the corporate body. God is interested in His people, His Body, in His church. He is not a respecter of person and He says that if we can realise this, everything will work together for good!

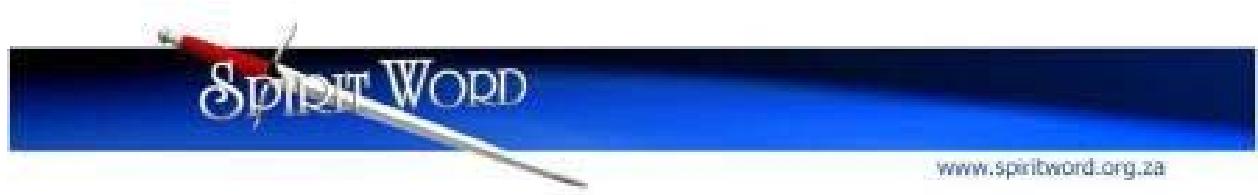
Romans 8:28-29 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

He knows where He wants to get the saints! I don't know how to pray for them and I don't know what to pray for them. I don't know their needs, I do not know! I can more or less evaluate you by the way you speak to me or by the way I look at you when you worship or the way you handle your children or your wife, but I don't really know your spiritual standard; I don't really know where you stand with God. I don't know what you do when you're all alone seven thousand miles from here. I do not know what you do when you're all alone at night and I do not know how you really read your Bible or pray. I do not really know how intimate you are with the Lord, I can guess and say that man is really walking with God and after a few months I can find out he just knows how to act. We don't know, but the Holy Spirit knows exactly. If I will allow Him and realise I've got the Holy Spirit and I can really make supplications on behalf of the saints, restoration will come to me, because then I will be following God's plan.

God spoke to me and said that it's time for the church to accept one another; it's time for the church to release one another. I must release you, but you must release me. I must accept you, but you must accept me. It's time for acceptance and release. If I really accept you, I will really release you. If you really accept me, you will really release me and then we can pray...

YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE CHOICE

When Job started praying for the saints, restoration came. The three friends of Job were not wicked men. Look at their prophetic utterances - they were prophets; they were saints. When Job turned around from: "moaning and groaning, I and me and me and I ..." to: "oh Lord, I pray for those three saints. God I intercede for them, I ask forgiveness, I abhor myself; I repent from my words that are not refreshing rain and now I pray for the saints..." he got a break through. God restored unto him double what he had in the first place.



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There's a church out there and God wants the church to be elevated, to be on horseback and not to walk in the dust as slaves. He wants them to ride as kings on the earth and see a little bit higher than me and I and my wife and my son and us four and no more. What about: "Oh God I can see that there's a depression thing on that household, I don't know what it is but oh Jesus..." and then I start interceding, praying in the Spirit. Most of the time most people are so focused on what they must have, where they go and what they must break through that they don't even see that there are people around them.

Why don't we just lift our vision and say: "Oh God, I'm going to start to pray for somebody else."

Two people came to me for prayer. The one was going through a tough time, nothing worked out and there was nowhere out. His marriage didn't work out and nothing else worked out, because there were no finances coming in. The other man phoned me every week saying: 'Kobus I had this dream and it's just going worse and worse...' One day I got up with this revelation and asked them both: 'Can I give you a guy's name and for the next week you never pray for yourself, you just pray for him, because you are both sitting in the same situation?'

The one guy prayed, but the other one didn't. The one who prayed said: "You know Kobus, slowly but surely I'm getting this little hole closed, I'm getting that one done, I'm breaking through here and there, but the greatest is that my spirit is so high." He said that everything just worked out, his wife got a job and a salary second to none and the doors started opening! I asked the other guy if he had prayed for that man and he replied: "You know Kobus, how can you pray for somebody else if you see my problems?" He still has the same problems.

No matter where you are sitting, there's always somebody that's a little bit deeper in it than you and if you can't find somebody in South Africa go and find somebody in Ethiopia.

Your answer lies in praying for someone else.