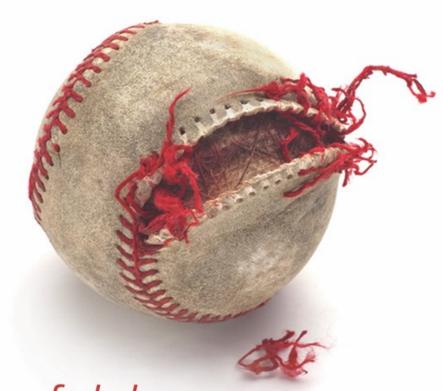
life coming apart at the seams?

Trusting in God's goodness when life seems to be falling apart.

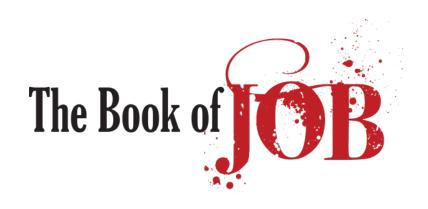


Studies from the life of Job.

20 "O God, grant me these two things, and then I will be able to face you.



Remove your heavy hand from me, and don't terrify me with your awesome presence. vs.21

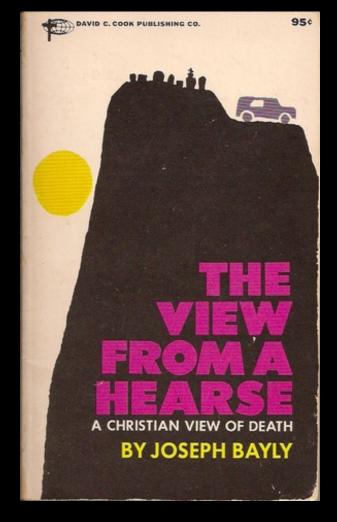


Now summon me, and I will answer! Or let me speak to you, and you reply. Verse 22



Joseph T Bayly



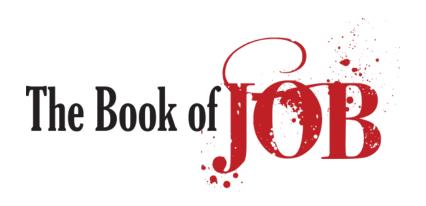


"I was sitting torn by grief. Someone came and talked to me of God's dealings, of why it happened, of hope beyond the grave. He talked constantly. He said things I knew were true. I wished he'd just go away, and he finally did. Another came and sat beside me. He didn't talk. He didn't ask leading questions. He just sat beside me for an hour or more. He listened when I said something. He answered briefly. He prayed simply, and left. I hated to see him go."

"I didn't need a map. I needed the presence of friends that could strengthen me. Not tell me how to climb through the pass, but to journey with me to the pass.



21 Remove your heavy hand from me, and don't terrify me with your awesome presence. 22 Now summon me, and I will answer!





"Even a tree has more hope! If it is cut down, it will sprout again and grow new branches. 8 Though its roots have grown old in the earth and its stump decays, 9 at the scent of water it will bud and sprout again like a new seedling. 10 "But when people die, their strength is gone. They breathe their last, and then where are they? Job 14:7-10



1 Peter 4:14, "If you suffer, you are blessed, for the Spirit of Christ's glory rests on you,"



Romans 8:18, "Our present sufferings are not worthy to even be compared to the glory that will be revealed in us,"



2 Corinthians 4:16,17 "Though outwardly we are wasting away, inwardly we're being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary afflictions are achieving for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison."



For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God.

1 Peter 2:19



But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it?

1 Peter 2:20a



But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

1 Peter 2:20b



"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats.

1 Peter 2:21-23a



Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2: 23b



To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

1 Peter 2: 21



"But when people die, their strength is gone. They breathe their last, and then where are they?"

Job 14:10



"I wish you would hide me in the grave and forget me there until your anger has passed. But mark your calendar to think of me again!

Job 14:13



You would call and I would answer,...

Job 14:15

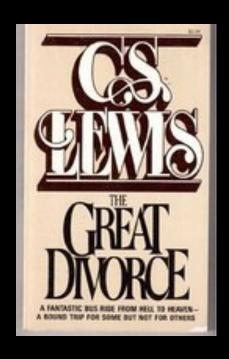


You would call and I would answer, and you would yearn for me, your handiwork.

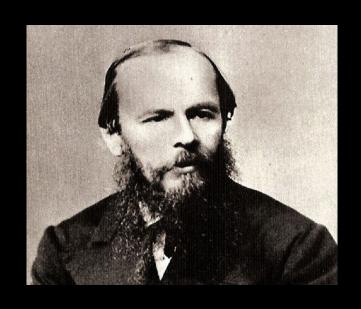
Job 14:15







"They say of suffering, 'No future bliss can make up for it.' That's not true. Resurrection and eternal life, once attained, will work backwards and turn even all your agony into glory."



Dostoyevsky

"I believe like a child that suffering will be healed and made up for, that all the humiliating absurdity of human contradictions will vanish like a pitiful mirage, ... that in the world's finale, at the moment of eternal harmony, something so precious will come to pass that it will suffice for all hearts ... that it will make it not only possible to forgive but to justify all that has happened."

You would call and I would answer, and you would yearn for me, your handiwork.

Job 14:15



"Behold, I tell you a mystery, we will not sleep, but we shall be changed in a flash, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. "For the trumpet shall sound and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.



For when the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written shall come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

