

Job 19

Read Job 19:1-6: Job is saying that his friends refuse to stop *pecking on him* and critiquing him. Job suggests that his sin has nothing to do with them. He says that if any unknown sin has caused his fall; it is between himself and God. Our sins against our fellow man are ultimately against God.

...Blot out my transgressions. -Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. -For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, (Psalm 51:1-4)

But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. -There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:8-9)

We all sin against God by the way we ignore his commandments (even if the commandments are divided between sins against God and sins against man).

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)

In Christ we have forgiveness. Even so, a Christian will not do certain things by virtue of the Spirit within him.

Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:3)

Those who reject the reconciliation to God in Christ have no forgiveness. Jesus uniquely can be treated like a man, as long as he is ultimately treated as God.

Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. (Matthew 12:32)

If one man sins against another, God will judge him. But if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?" (1 Samuel 2:25)

Jesus came as a man for many reasons. One reason is to make a link between a holy God and sinful men. Jesus could dwell with sinners without their being destroyed. Any sin before our heavenly fathers' face would be disintegrated and destroyed.

Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, You have appointed them for judgment; O Rock, You have marked them for correction. You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. (Habakkuk 1:12-13)

To knowingly-mischaracterize God for our own purposes (like some Pharisees did) is not forgivable. Jesus has been rejected by men; but he still uniquely can still save men.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation”— (Mark 3:28-29)

Read Job 19:7-20: It is actually a blessing to realize that no possession or relationship can help you. That moment of absolute helplessness and aloneness is an awakening to how it is really God who orchestrates all of the things that we comfort our self in. It is analogous to seeing that God is our life-support breathing machine. We would not unplug it for five minutes to do anything else.

Only God can protect and save you. We tend to *see through people* a little better when we are down. Job sees that his '*friends*' are not true friends. When I was a boy, I wore large glasses. My true friends didn't act different when I got my contact lenses. There were suddenly *new friends* who thought I appeared more interesting. Job is beginning to see that the things he highly-valued are worthless trash as you enter eternity.

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? (Mark 8:36)

Read Job 19:21-29: This portion is the first indication of Job gaining victory over his situation in God. It is like a Psalm. He is self-assured that he will see God

after he dies. He is confident that he has made the right choices in his life. When we lie to God we are lying to ourselves. Knowing that we have nothing to hide or regret gives us confidence to face our accusers. A guilty conscience does not give us boldness. He is now seeing that it is his friends who are in trouble; not him. The scriptures tell us to act with dignity as though God were walking with us...because he is.

When the host go forth against your enemies, then keep yourself from every wicked thing. If there is among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that happens at night, then shall he go out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp: -But it shall be, when evening comes, he shall wash himself with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp again. You shall have a place also outside the camp, where you shall go forth abroad: -And thou shalt have a paddle upon your weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig with, and shall turn back and cover that which cometh from thee: -For the LORD thy God walks in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee. (Deuteronomy 23:9-14)