



A YEAR
with
GOD
Daily Devotional

DAY 11



A PUBLICATION OF GOD'S THRESHING PLACE
www.thethreshingplace.org

DAY ELEVEN

Job 29 - 31

The Life You Used to Have

There is a particular kind of grief that has no name. It is not the grief of losing someone. It is the grief of losing a version of yourself - the person you used to be, in a life that used to feel like it had God's warmth all over it. The mornings when faith felt easy. The seasons when you knew where you stood with God. The time before whatever it is that changed everything.

Job goes there today. And he does it with a tenderness that will undo you if you let it.

Memory is a mercy and a wound at the same time. Job uses his to show us what it costs to lose the sense of God's presence - and how real that loss is.

Chapter 29 is pure remembrance. Job's voice changes here. The fight goes out of it. He is not arguing any more. He is simply remembering. And the picture he paints of his former life is extraordinary - not because it was a life of luxury, but because it was a life of God.

*“How I long for the months gone by, for the days when God
watched over me, when his lamp shone on my head
and by his light I walked through darkness!”*

- Job 29:2-3

His lamp shone on my head. That phrase - that image of light resting on a person, guiding their steps, making the dark passable - is one of the most beautiful descriptions of what it feels like to walk closely with God. And Job no longer has it. He can remember exactly what it felt like, which makes its absence all the more piercing.

- The people who feel God's absence most acutely are usually the ones who have felt His presence most deeply.

He remembers the respect of the elders, who fell silent when he approached and waited for his words as if for rain. He remembers rescuing the poor, being eyes to the blind and feet to the lame, being a father to the needy. He remembers thinking that his days would continue like this - that he would die in his own house, his roots spread out to water, his glory always new.

And then it all stopped.

Chapter 30 is the crash. The contrast is as sharp as anything in Scripture. The same man who was honoured by elders is now mocked by people he would not have trusted to watch his dogs. Men younger than him, from families he would have scorned, now sing songs about him and make him a byword. They spit at the sight of him.

His body is falling apart. His pain is constant. He cries to God and God does not answer. He stands up and God simply looks at him. He has become like dust and ashes. *“I cry out to you, God, but you do not answer;*

I stand up, but you merely look at me.”

- Job 30:20

I want to sit with this verse for a moment rather than rush past it. Because it captures something that very few Christian books are willing to say plainly: there are seasons when you cry out to God and the sky feels like concrete. When you stand and wait and nothing comes. When the silence is not peaceful but heavy. When God does not feel absent so much as He feels present but unmoved.

If you have ever felt that, Job 30:20 was written for you. God kept it in His book because He wanted you to know: the silence you are sitting in is not new. And it is not the end of the story.

Job is not losing his faith in these chapters. He is losing his comfort. He is losing the felt sense of God's nearness. And he is honest about that loss in a way that most of us are afraid to be - because we worry that admitting it will make it permanent, or that God will hear us and confirm it.

- God does not punish honesty. He honours it.

Chapter 31 is Job's final defence - and it is remarkable. He goes through his life point by point, category by category, and presents it before God as evidence. He has not lusted. He has not deceived. He has not committed adultery. He has not dismissed the grievance of his servants when they brought a complaint against him. He has not withheld from the poor. He has not gloated over his enemy's ruin. He has not worshipped the sun or the moon. He has not concealed his sin to protect his reputation.

This is not arrogance. This is a man who has genuinely lived with integrity and is refusing to confess to sins he did not commit just to satisfy his friends or end his suffering. There is something almost sacred in that refusal. He would rather keep his pain than surrender his honesty.

You do not honour God by lying to Him about who you are or what you have done. Job knew that. He stood before God with an open life and said: look at it. All of it. I have nothing to hide.

And then Job goes silent. He has said everything. He has defended himself, mourned his losses, declared his integrity, cried out to God. The words of Job are ended. He has nothing left to say. What follows that silence will change everything.

- Sometimes the most important thing you can do is run out of words and wait.

Speak this over yourself today:

Even in the seasons when God feels silent,

He has not moved.

His lamp has not gone out.

*I will bring Him my honest life - all of it - and trust
that He sees what no one else can see.*

TOMORROW - Day 12 Job 32–34

*A young man who has been sitting in the corner, quietly furious,
finally stands up. His name is Elihu. And what he says is going
to surprise you - because unlike the other three friends, God
never corrects him. Come back tomorrow.*

Day 11 of 365



WORSHIP UNLEASHED



08:00am

MONDAY - FRIDAY

THE THRESH ONLINE RADIO

A captivating programme that blends powerful worship moments with inspiring stories that reveal the heart of true worship. Each episode explores real-life testimonies, biblical accounts, and worship experiences that help listeners understand and deepen their relationship with God through worship. Where worship comes alive through every story.

*"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship
in spirit and truth" — John 4:24*

<https://thethreshonline.org>