



The title of this message is, Faith, Hope and Charity

Scripture: Job 1:8 42: 1-3 , 5-6

Our witness and proclamation is the Lord's calling from the beginning of time.

In communion and grace, we belong to the Lord.

In Job 1:8 God confirms, " there was no one on earth like him, blameless, and upright, fearing God and avoiding evil."

Job was a man who witnessed to his country men and was held in high esteem.

A dark period came upon Job's life where he was completely stripped of all his blessings and loved ones.

Now barren of knowledge, understanding and purpose; his cross and life unknown.

Where in our own lives do we share with Job ?

We wait for reprieve but reality reveals no cure from human finite.

Where does our help come from when we are faced with life's tribulation. Do we now raise our fists in protest for justification before God ?

Jesus was arrayed in glory, yet unrecognized in us and among us. He too was stripped of all and suffered with the human race.

It appeared he was defeated on the salvific cross, but Jesus turned to God the Father asking for mercy for our weakness and failure not recognizing Jesus Christ his Son.

Visually impaired by the sight of the cross, Christ peacefully laid His Spirit down in order that the power of God prevailed in His resurrection, three days following His death.

What Job knew of God , he knew dimly. The esteem of his fellow men created pride and his suffering created regret of his life. A spirit of abandonment and despair .

The Lord appeared to Job revealing to him the fullness of truth.

Job's response in 42: 1-3 5-6 , " I know that you can do all things and that no purpose of yours can be hindered. Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge? Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand; things too marvelous for me which I did not know. I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in the dust of ashes."

When did Job lay his life down in peace?

It was when he gave his will and spirit to the God he lived for.

The wait was over and his eyes were opened, communion with God was now transparent of His glory. Job was filled with love and joy at the grace and hope that stood before him.

Job was reborn in the Spirit. Human knowledge and understanding was no longer necessary. He now walked with God.

All around us God speaks; do we hear His voice ?

What are the voices we turn to ?

Are they life giving or do they take life ?

Let the voices of the children of God walk through the ashes of men and be raised before the face of God.

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