

“My Flesh Shall see the Lord” by Rev Samuel Mametsa, Sunday the 15th of January 2012

Scripture reading: Job 19:25-26: *“25 But I know there is someone in heaven who will come at last to my defense. 26 Even after my skin is eaten by disease, while still in this body I will see God.”* GNT.

John 1:14 *“14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”* NIV.

2 Cor 12:7-9: *“7 But to keep me from being puffed up with pride because of the many wonderful things I saw, I was given a painful physical ailment, which acts as Satan's messenger to beat me and keep me from being proud. 8 Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away. 9 But his answer was: "My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak." I am most happy, then, to be proud of my weaknesses, in order to feel the protection of Christ's power over me.”* GNT.

The bible says that they when word of God enters into somebody it become flesh. The word of God is life; if u got the word of God u have life. We are here in the church coz we received the life in the word of God. When u read the word and understand it, it becomes flesh in you. Even when u have problem in your body, like u r sick it will become flesh in that body. Whatever disease is in your body this means that your flesh must see God.

Job was confronted with afflictions. The devil requested for Job from God. Devil doesn't have a problem that moves him. His problem is how he can destroy us. The devil was given authority of all things; instead he walked around looking for Job to the extent that he asked for Job from God. He was too busy moving around. God realised that the devil was looking for Job.

There are people in life who are just going around looking for your life in order that they may catch you (for your destruction). By your being in God and going to church and your praying, the devil is going around looking for you, until God asks

him 'what do u want?' Inside the devil is saying to himself 'how can I get this person?' He wants God to prove "Is this person really serving You (God)?" There are lots of problems in our lives and people who are around you will ask, 'Where is your God now that you are in trouble?"

If your body is not prepared to see the Lord then your chances of seeing the Lord are limited. We know that Jesus is never late. Those who lose their faith like Lazarus's sisters will think that He is late but He is never late. It doesn't matter which problems you have, what disease you have, but in your persistence of the word of God you will see God. Serve God with that problem, that ailment and you will see him.

The bible says that Job smelled like a dead dog and people were running away from him because of the smell. Some would talk to him looking way in the other direction. The people asked him "Why don't you insult God and die once?" But because Job knew very well "There is a word of God in my flesh". All the word of God that you have heard is food in your body. He was crying in his heart 'My flesh must see the Lord.'

John says once you hear the word of God and it is in you, and then your flesh will see God. The bible says my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. In other words, John is right, in my body there is the word of God. Your body is where the spirit of God will dwell as the word of God in you. If there is no word of God in your body then you cannot stomach the Holy Spirit in you.

When people came to Job to discourage him, he listened and assessed their comments and found none worthy to respond to or to comply to, and he said, "In all that you are saying I know that my Redeemer liveth." I don't know what you are saying in your life but Job says "my Redeemer liveth". The problem is that people listen and look at their bodies and check the sicknesses in their bodies. What is important is "Do I have the word of God in me, If I have the word of God in me, then the spirit of God dwells in me and no demon can torment me.

Sometimes there is a situation where you find sickness and disease tormenting us but still we say "My body is the temple of the Lord" My question is "If your body is the temple of the Lord, why is it sicknesses and disease are staying in your body with the Holy Spirit?" e.g. ulcer, high blood, cancer etc these diseases are saying in that very same body, 'I have my room in this body'. When you go to the doctor they give you a file of a list of sicknesses and diseases and you agree and say 'Thank you, devil it is my disease". Whatever the doctor says 'you honour' and comply. It is when the devil is playing with you. The devil goes to God and says 'Are these your people, why children?', "Yes" "Let me see what happened if I command them not to eat sugar." The devil comes and gives you a pain and you run to the doctor and he tells you not to eat sugar. The devil tells your doctor that even if sugar is nice, don't eat the sugar etc Then you come home with a long list of dos and don'ts. The devil goes to God and says "You see your child, I have given her a long list and she is honouring my list. Is this child serving you God?"

What the devil did to Job he will do it to you also. Job refused to do anything that the devil wanted him to do. That's why he even refused to go to the hospital, they even chased him from home and he stayed out there, smelling and scratching. He said "even if this body is tormented, I know my Jehovah is alive". Some people are told "Your sickness can't be healed" and they accept it. We have to refuse it.

Paul says that in my body there is a thorn tormenting me and he prayed 3 times a day pleading to God to take it away. He was refusing the pain. The bible uses Paul's pain as a thorn. It was a pain, a kind of ailment but he interpreted it as a thorn. We all have thorns. Some think it was a literal natural thorn. People were worried that he could heal people but he was himself sick. That is why he was praying and pleading to God "I am healing people but what about my pain?" God responded "My grace is sufficient." The grace of God on your life is sufficient.

Don't nurse your problem because when you do that you make the devil very happy but when you refuse the problem the devil becomes discouraged to attack you.