“Job Parallels to Israel” from the Messianic Hour

By Charles Feinberg

Charles Feinberg:

The messianic Hour is on the air. Oh Israel, hear the word of the Lord.

[Musical Interlude]

A hearty welcome friends on the broadcast of the messianic hour under the direction of Dr. Charles Lee Feinberg professor of Old Testament. At Talbot Theological Seminary. This program aims to foster love for God's ancient people Israel and to spread the truth of salvation in the Messiah for blessing and inspiration. Stay tuned for the next half hour.

[Musical Interlude]

The story in Genesis 22 of Abraham's offering up of Isaac comes to a thrilling unexpected conclusion when the angel of the Lord at the last moment steps in to prevent the impending catastrophe. Through it all. Abraham never wavered though he could not see nor understand God's mysterious leading. His faith stood the acid test with dramatic skill. A Sunday school teacher was once telling the story of Abraham and his obedience and preparing to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac. As the story neared its climax a little girl pleaded Oh please don't go on this story is too terrible. Another youngster in the class spoke up. Don't be silly Mary she
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said. This is one of God's stories and God's stories always come out right. Yes our Lord rules and he overrules and he causes all things to work for the good of his children.

[Musical Interlude]

Many years ago when medicine was yet in its infancy. Professor Bahr Harvey became renowned for his skillful use in performing of the infrequent autopsies that were then permitted for the Advancement of Medical Research. His famous classes in anatomy were very helpful to his many medical students. One day the body of a man who had been executed for a series of terrible crimes was given to him for such study purposes. Glancing at the face of the dead man the doctor suddenly paled and then began to sob. His students looked at him questioningly. They were not accustomed to their professor being so emotional. When he regained his composure. He said Gentlemen with this man I spent most of my youthful years. Now I am honored while he lives here a despised executed criminal. I never dreamed that I would one day be performing an autopsy upon his body outside of the grace of God I know of no reason why I should not be lying here for I came from the same environment. I'm overwhelmed by the fact that the faithful lord whom I received years ago has established me and kept me from evil. friends that touching scene along with Professor Bar Harvey's testimony lingered long in the memory of those young medic's.

[Musical Interlude]
Friends it is not important what I say or what you say but what sayeth the scripture. Hear the Old Testament prophecy in Deuteronomy nineteen fifteen one witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity or for any sin and any sin that he sins. At the mouth of two witnesses or at the mouth of three witnesses shall the matter be established? Now here's the New Testament fulfillment in the messiah. In John's Gospel the eighth chapter verses 16 to 18. And yet if I judge that our Lord my judgment is true for I'm not alone but I and the father that sent me. It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. I am one that bears witness of myself and the father that sent me bearing witness of me.

[Musical Interlude]

Our gracious God and our Heavenly Father how we think thee. For the blessed Messiah the savior the Lord Jesus. Whom thou doth send to witness concerning thy righteousness thy marvelous person and to witness at the same time of the awful sinfulness of sin and all mankind. And how marvelously he witnessed of thy forgiveness of thy grace of thy mercy of thy love of thy patience of thy long suffering and what a witness that was on Calvary, redeeming love when the just one died for us the unjust that he might bring us to thee and how we praise thee that he witnesses concerning thy glorious person and power and resurrection glory by his very presence at thy right hand the man Christ Jesus and the glory for us we thank thee that he witnesses to this hour that he's able through his blessed spirit to convict hearts and to give saving grace to any lost sheep of the House of Israel who will simply trust him. Lord may there be those in the radio audience this hour who will turn heart and life over to him and open the heart to receive him as redeemer. This we pray in Jesus name with Thanksgiving. Amen.
A preacher once summed up the matter of participating in worship in a most interesting way. He went to the editor of the local paper and he said sir there are 43 people in my congregation who subscribed to your paper does that entitle me to have a church notice in your Saturday issue. The editor said it sure does write it out. We'll print it. This is what the preacher wrote Mount Mariah church. The Reverend Mr. John Walker pastor will be preaching morning and evening in the promulgation of the Gospel. Three books will be needed. The Bible book the hymn book and the pocket book come tomorrow and bring all three and we might add. Come and be prepared to use them.

I'd like to think with you today friends on the climax of the book of Job. Face to face with the Lord. The Book of Job in its climax. The Book of Job reveals a victory but it's not the victory of man's remarkable or superior reasoning or philosophical solutions nor the victory of superior argumentation. It is the blessed victory of faith such as Job revealed in Chapter 13 Verse 15 though he slay me yet will I trust him. This triumph was not won in a moment nor by one spiritual leap but indefinite slow progressive stages. When the last words of Job are given in Chapter 31 his friends are still of their opinion and job is still of his conviction. The problem is deadlocked as it were the argument of the book is summarized in Chapter 32 verses one to three so these three men cease to answer job because he was righteous in his own eyes. Then was
kindled the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzzite of the family ram against Job was his wrath kindled because he justified himself rather than God also against his three friends was his wrath kindled because they had found no answer and yet had condemned Job.

Then Elihu comes preparing the way for the words of the Lord which follow. We take his words. Elihu's words as appropriate and in place because the Lord utters no rebuke of him later when he does of the other three friends. In a sense Elihu is the answer to Job's burning earnest desire that he might have a [inaudible] an umpire or an arbiter to stand between God and himself. The Burden of Elihu's several addresses is first that God is infinitely eternally greater than man in power. In view of this it behooves man to be in a place of submission before his creator. Secondly God is infinitely greater than man not only in power but in wisdom. He has no need to detail his ways and his plans to man even if man could understand them. Says Elihu he giveth not account of any of his matters. God isn't answerable to any one of us and does best when he awaits God's solution which God alone can give and will give when it definitely and timely hour pleases him. And thirdly God is infinitely greater than man not only in power and in wisdom but in righteousness.

We read far be it from God that he should do wickedness and from the Almighty that He should commit iniquity. Yea. Of assuredly God will not do wickedly neither will the almighty pervert justice. It's impossible for us fully to conceive how sinful it is for us to condemn the righteous, holy, just God or to seek to maintain our righteousness at the expense of his. And then finally God is infinitely greater than man not only in power, wisdom, and righteousness but in his tender mercy. We read that in the Epistle of James. You learn the long suffering and mercy of God his patience with Job. If we could understand the heart of God, we should certainly be convinced that even in our deepest afflictions, which he permits; his heart is most tender toward
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us. After these addresses God himself appears. But he is not on the defensive, mark you. He is responsible; I repeat he is amenable to no one of his creatures. In the concluding portions of the book of Job we find Job in the presence of God. Neither the enemy Satan nor the critics dealt properly with Job and his problem. That remains for the Living, Loving God alone to do. Job has been afflicted inwardly outwardly physically mentally spiritually.

Now God intends to bless him both inwardly and outwardly. God does this by asking Job well-nigh 100 questions what an examination God revealed to Job the omnipotence and omniscience which are God's alone. He alone is omnipotent. He alone is omniscient. Nowhere in the Bible have we a more marvelous presentation of the majesty and greatness of God. This revealed to Job his own ignorance and that of earthly temporal things then God sets forth the impotence the weakness the frailty of Job. This wasn't done just showed Joe that God's ways are totally inscrutable. If so then why appear at all in this problem if not to solve it himself. It wasn't just to make the solution more difficult to Job. No the portrayal of the frailty and weakness of Job is meant to give Job a clear conception of the glorious nature and person and power of the creator. Job's arguments show that he had an imperfect rather an incomplete view of God.

You see the pivot and climax of the book are in verses 5 and 6 of Chapter 42. Listen to what Job says. I had heard of thee by the hearing of the ear but now mine eyes seeth thee, wherefore I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes. That's the height of the piety and faith of the afflicted one when brought to repentance a remarkable portion of the word of God. Friends Job's righteousness was real because in the first two chapters of job God had boasted of it even to Satan. But in the light of God it appeared as nothing. Such is the repentance of the righteous. He might try to clear himself before men. Before God this is an impossibility. The vision of God had turned Hearsay into clear vision. Hearsay is that which is taught us what we receive by tradition
or instruction what might be termed the letter of the truth. We dare not however press this out of
bounds for Job did utter words of faith and truth in Chapter 13 as we already quoted though he
slay me yet will I trust in him and Chapter 19. I know that my redeemer liveth and even though
this body should be placed in the grave, said Job, and worms should consume it. Yet without my
flesh shall I see God and not as a stranger. So there were words of faith and truth. But he says all
that together with the experience I now have it's comparable, the other is, to hearsay over against
clear vision. Vision, on the other hand is that which is unclouded you see undimmed
untrammeled sight.

To have the eye filled to overflowing with the knowledge of God. That Job did not know
God in all the perfection of his being is clear from the view of God that he now expresses. Now
is direct soul searching experiences that put together with the realization of God's power majesty
holiness love and goodness? It's they together in a combination potent combination that turn
hearsay into vision. He sees clearly now that what he had mistaken for the seizure of an enemy
was the firm grasp of a friend what he thought was the weapon of a foe was the careful skillful
physician who only cuts in order to heal. A skilled physician was about to perform a delicate
delicate operation on the ear of his patient and he saw his patient beginning to cringe. So he said
reassuringly to his patient I may hurt you. But I will not injure you. Isn't that true of God. His
Providences may hurt but he does not mean to maim to injure to mar. By God's appearing to him
Job learned himself once having seen God and learned God in a new way. He sees himself in a
new light. He sees himself and all his impurity and all of his lack in all of his falling short of the
infinite standard of God.

Friends when the Seraphim stand before God as we find it in Isaiah 6 they veil their faces
before God's holiness. When Isaiah saw the Lord he saw his own unclean lips and said Woe is
me. When Paul saw Christ on the Damascus road he fell to the ground as dead. When Peter out on the Sea of Galilee saw Christ he said depart from me for I am a sinful man o Lord. And when John the Apostle saw the Lord on the island of Patmos he said I fell at his feet as dead. Friends in God's sight, all our comeliness all our grace all our beauty all of it is turned into corruption in his purity in his whiteness. All on earth is but pollution and blackness of darkness. To see God is infinite is to see ourselves as finite to see him as perfect is to bring us forcibly to our imperfection. To know God is all knowing the summation of all wisdom is to realize our ignorance. To acknowledge him as right is to admit ourselves as wrong to view his holiness is to be smitten with our own sin and corruption so submission contrition humility should follow. Job then comes forth with a clear vision of God a discrediting of self, a rejecting of self-righteousness.

When the spiritual and inward has been cared for then God showers upon the patriarch Job the temporal and the outward it becomes the channel of blessing through his intercession for his friends who had so grievously maligned him. Such intercession, surely a humiliating thing for them. God told these men you go and have Job pray for you. You have not spoken that which is right concerning me as Job has. They were patronizing God. They didn't know the answer but they thought they would add to Job's agony by acting as though they were attorneys for God. Job's enemy dealt ill with him. His friends dealt with him as best they could. It is God, blessed be his name. Whoever and always deals best and right and correctly with us. And finally it's needful for us to see the parallel with Israel in the presence of God. We've seen Job in the presence of God. How is this a picture a portrayal of Israel in the presence of God? That blessedness which was the portion of Job in the presence of God. Meeting him face to face will be the experience of
Israel in the coming day. Zachariah predicts pour upon the House of David and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and of supplication.

And they should look to me whom they have pierced and they shall mourn for him as one mourneth for his only son and shall be in bitterness for him as one that is in bitterness for his first born. In that self-same time there shall be a fountain open to the House of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin for uncleanness. Job looking unto God saw his own undone condition was cleansed Israel will see the returning hope of Israel will be fully cleansed? By the appearing of the Lord to Job he came to know God as never before when God appears to Israel they shall know him as never before. God's law will be implanted in their hearts that they will not need to teach their neighbor in the knowledge of the Lord they shall know him from the least of them to the greatest by coming face to face with the Lord. They'll finally understand and know themselves they'll repent in deep sorrow, mourning and contrition. They'll cast away all of their self-righteousness as with Job their former knowledge of God will appear shallow in comparison with the light of that hour. Job was seeking after God and found him.

So will Israel. The hour of Job's deliverance was one the most intense pain mental and spiritual anxiety. Such will be the case with Israel regathered settled in the land. The eyes of the Confederacy's of the nations will be attracted to her to make of her a spoil. Israel has had many a dark hour in international history this will be the worst of all. The culmination of them all. She will have her time of trial but God's word is sure she will be saved out of it. Israel will then as Job knows increased prosperity as never before her cities will expand beyond their boundaries. Abundance will be seen on every hand. That will be the time when Israel will become a channel of blessing to others. First Job was blessed then his friends through him. The order is the same with Israel and the Gentiles. Israel will enter actually into the fulfillment of God's original
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purpose for her a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Job was a wonderful character. Israel a remarkable people but oh how Blessed is God. Above all he is ready to forgive and pardon and receive. The problem of job is solved that of Israel will be too, then it will be seen that afflictions test piety as well as iniquity. Trials develop faith hardships lead to clearer views of God tribulations draw the soul nearer to God. What was formerly considered an unbearable burden is seen to be an abiding blessing. What matters it then if God permits us to be delivered into the hands of the enemy or allows us to be subjected to the vitriolic ministrations of physicians of no value as long as at the end of it all we may have that meeting with him face to face.

One night on the wild Newfoundland coast a fierce storm arose before the fishing fleet could reach the harbor. Wives and children strained their tear dimmed eyes hoping to see through the darkness and tempest the coming sails. About midnight it was discovered the cottage of one of the fishermen was on fire and in spite of all their efforts it was totally destroyed. When morning dawned that fleet was found safely anchored in the bay as the wife went to greet her husband with the tidings of the loss of their home he said wife. I thank God for the burning of the house. It was by its light that the fleet was able to make the port but for that fire we had all perished. Friends but for the fire that fell on Messiah at Calvary when he took our sins. We had all perished. He did it for you too, receive him. Believe him accept him now listening friend eternal life will be yours. Our father. Use the broadcasted music vocal instrumental the message through this marvelous book of Job to reach Jewish hearts for Christ in his name we pray amen.

[Musical Outro]
Friends since the beginning of the messianic hour. Now in its 20th year the dedicated purpose and vision have been to reach our Jewish friends with the truth concerning God's son the Lord Jesus Christ. We found radio a most advantageous tool to reach those who would not otherwise attend any gospel service. It is one of the most inexpensive means of touching large areas of any population in order to make possible these broadcasts to maintain their outreach our staff members themselves give generously to carry the heavy load they do need your help. Every gift received without deduction goes directly toward the specific Ministry of reaching the Jewish people with the news of the Messiah our savior. We would greatly appreciate your daily remembrance of this work in your prayers. Then as the Lord speaks to your heart invest in reaching our Jewish people for Christ our mailing address is the messianic hour post office box 11 0 2 that's box 1 1 0 2 Whittier California zip code 9 0 6 0 3. Trust we may hear from you.

With the encouragement to everyone our soloist today was Dave Efland John Hess at the organ. Now this is Charles Feinberg thanking you for listening for your faithful prayers for your zealous witness on behalf of those to whom the Lord reminded us to take the Gospel first. Listen again next week with your Jewish friends and neighbors and all your friends at the same time for the messianic hour.

[End]