

When Life  
**HURTS**  
THE STORY OF JOB

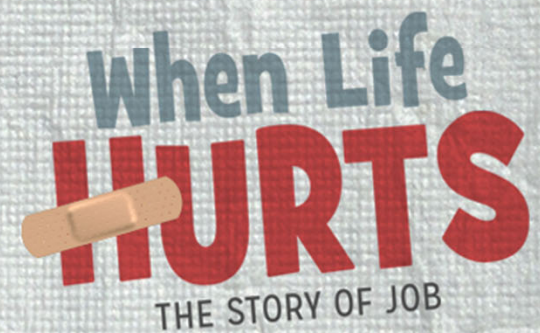
**The Silence of God  
& the Cry for a Redeemer**  
Job 23:8-9; Job 19:1-29



*“Clear guidance became as much of an affront to that generation as unclear guidance is to ours.”*

–Philip Yancey  
*(Disappointment with God)*

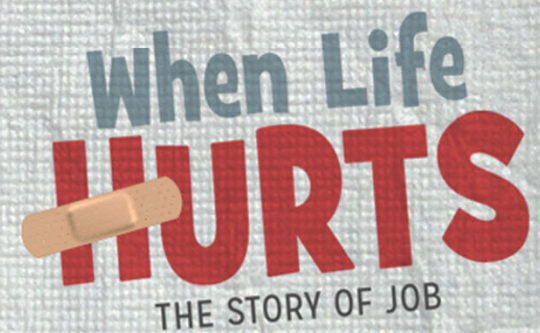
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The logo consists of the text 'When Life' in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by 'HURTS' in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. A yellow and white adhesive bandage is placed over the 'HURTS' text. Below this, the words 'THE STORY OF JOB' are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

*“A flash of light from a beacon on shore and then a long, dreadful time of silence and darkness – that is a pattern we find not only in Job but throughout the Bible.”*

–Philip Yancey


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# Three Questions About the Silence of God

1. What if the silence of God is normative so that you might learn to exercise greater faith?

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# Three Questions About the Silence of God

2. Am I more concerned about how God is presenting himself to me or am I more concerned about how I am presenting myself to God?


Psalm 25:1: *“To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.”*

Are you a person who demands of God or who surrenders to God?

# Three Questions About the Silence of God

3. What if you take God's silence as a compliment?

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# Images of God's Assault Upon Job

Verse	Job's Poetic Image	Job's Complaint	What we might say:
<p>7: “Behold, I cry out “Violence!” but I am not answered; I call for help, but there is no justice.”</p>	<p>A civilian assaulted by thugs and thieves and unable to summon any passerby to help him in his moment of need.</p>	<p><b><i>God's Silence</i></b></p>	<p>When I especially need a response from God, God is silent</p>

# Images of God's Assault Upon Job

Verse	Job's Poetic Image	Job's Complaint	What we might say:
<p>8:            "He has walled up my way, so that I cannot pass, and he has set darkness upon my paths."</p>	<p>The image is one of a traveler whose way is blocked by darkness.</p>	<p><b><i>God's Hiddenness</i></b></p>	<p>When I especially need God to light a path, God provides darkness.</p>



# Images of God's Assault Upon Job

Verse	Job's Poetic Image	Job's Complaint	What we might say:
<p>9: He has stripped from me my glory and taken the crown from my head.”</p>	<p>These are kingly &amp; princely images, and we might ask: what was done with kings and princes after they lost the battle? They were humiliated and stripped of all vestiges of honor. Their position in society no longer respected!</p>	<p><b><i>My faithfulness &amp; integrity mean nothing to God.</i></b></p>	<p>When I especially need to be comforted by blessings, He takes even those away.</p>

# Images of God's Assault Upon Job

Verse	Job's Poetic Image	Job's Complaint	What we might say:
10: "He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone, and my hope has he pulled up like a tree."	A plant which has been completely uprooted	<b><i>Hopelessness</i></b>	When I especially need to cling to signs of hope, God provides none. God uproots my hope like an unwanted plant!

# Images of God's Assault Upon Job

Verse	Job's Poetic Image	Job's Complaint	What we might say:
<p>11-12:            "He has kindled his wrath against me and counts me as his adversary. His troops come on together; they have cast up their siege ramp against me and encamp around my tent."</p>	<p>Do you get the irony? The image is of God amassing a huge force, troops building siege ramp which were used against large fortified cities! But in this case, all of that muscle and might, quite ridiculously is directed at just one little hapless tent.</p>	<p><b><i>God's Power Overwhelms me!</i></b></p>	<p>When I especially need God's comforting presence, He overwhelms me with Disproportionate Power.</p>

# Job 19

- First stanza: Job complains against his friends (vs. 1-6)
- Second stanza: God is my enemy! Images of God's Assault against Job (vs. 7-12)
- Third stanza: All my relationships are ruined! (vs. 13-22)
- Fourth Stanza: Job's Hope for a Redeemer (go'el) (vs. 23-29)