



March 13-14, 2010

Mark Stuenzi

Ultimate Hope in Ultimate Suffering

Job 19

This is how I feel:

A _____

¹Then Job replied:
²"How long will you torment me and crush me with words?
³Ten times now you have reproached me; shamelessly you attack me.
⁴If it is true that I have gone astray, my error remains my concern alone.
⁵If indeed you would exalt yourselves above me and use my humiliation against me, ⁶then know that God has wronged me and drawn his net around me.
⁷"Though I cry, 'I've been wronged!' I get no response; though I call for help, there is no justice.
⁸He has blocked my way so I cannot pass; he has shrouded my paths in darkness.
⁹He has stripped me of my honor and removed the crown from my head.
¹⁰He tears me down on every side till I am gone; he uproots my hope like a tree.
¹¹His anger burns against me; he counts me among his enemies.
¹²His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and encamp around my tent.

A _____

A _____

This is what I know:

I have a _____

I have a _____

I have _____

¹³ "He has alienated my brothers from me; my acquaintances are completely estranged from me.

¹⁴My kinsmen have gone away; my friends have forgotten me.

¹⁵My guests and my maidservants count me a stranger; they look upon me as an alien.

¹⁶I summon my servant, but he does not answer, though I beg him with my own mouth.

¹⁷My breath is offensive to my wife; I am loathsome to my own brothers.

¹⁸Even the little boys scorn me; when I appear, they ridicule me.

¹⁹All my intimate friends detest me; those I love have turned against me.

²⁰I am nothing but skin and bones; I have escaped with only the skin of my teeth.

²¹"Have pity on me, my friends, have pity, for the hand of God has struck me.

²²Why do you pursue me as God does? Will you never get enough of my flesh?

²³"Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, ²⁴that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!

²⁵I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God;

²⁷I myself will see him with my own eyes— I, and not another.

How my heart yearns within me!

Go to <http://parkerhill.wordpress.com> – where you will find weekly follow-up questions for you and your small group

Take some time this week to read these passages on eternity: Romans 8:18-27, 2 Corinthians 4, John 14:1-6, Revelation 21