

*"Why died I not from the womb? Why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?" Job 3:11 KJV*

"WHY?" How many times have circumstances provoked this question? Job lost all but his wife and his health was reduced to "sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown." The softest place to sit was "down among the ashes." His sorrow crushed him. In spite of every reason to do so, "Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." His attitude remained "Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD Gave, and the LORD Hath Taken Away; Blessed be the Name of the LORD." We could only hope to retain the faith of this upright man of whom God, Himself, asked Satan, "Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? And still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst Me against him, to destroy him without cause." As if it wasn't enough that his children had all died and his possessions gone, Satan prompted his dear wife to say, "Dost thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God, and die." Job replied; "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips." However, in his heart the question still raged, "WHY?" God may not always make the reasons of our suffering clear. Even Christ in bitterest agony pled with the Father, "Why hast Thou forsaken me?" When it appeared that God had forsaken Job, He had not. Job was unaware of God's mandate to Satan. "Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life." God knew what even Job did not; that Job trusted God no matter what. Can the same be said of us? Would we curse God if presented with the same trial? None can honestly answer that. We don't know, but God does and "will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Whatever you're suffering, God Knows exactly how much you are able to bear. His Purpose may not be revealed, but "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE." All faith requires is the NEXT step of obedience. A journey requires many steps, but each can only be made after the preceding is complete. Death's door is the last step faith requires, but for that there is the promise, "Lo, I Am with you always." The Psalmist wrote, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for Thou Art with me!" After many steps of faith, trust in God becomes a reflex and obedience Joy! His Commands are His Blessings which Guide us to His Bountiful Provision! The believer's final step crosses Heaven's Threshold!



Why would God allow my hurt?  
When He my suffering could avert?  
His ways are oft misunderstood,  
But what He does is for our good. –CGP

God wouldn't put you through anything you cannot handle in His Strength. His "Strength Is Made Perfect in weakness." The weaker you are the greater His Strength can be manifested through you. When tempted to count your woes, stop, and begin counting God's Blessings/Promises and remember Job's declaration; "Shall we receive good at the Hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD Gave, and the LORD Hath Taken Away; Blessed be the Name of the LORD." It is blasphemy to think God has forsaken us! True faith trusts God whatever circumstance befalls!

*"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He Hath Said, 'I Will Never Leave thee, nor Forsake thee.' So that we may boldly say, 'The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.'" Hebrews 13:5-6 KJV*