

My Redeemer Lives Job 19:23-28

My Redeemer Lives Introduction

*I know that my Redeemer lives!
What joy this blest assurance gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my ever-living Head!
He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.*

Samuel Medley (1738-1799), English Baptist Minister

- The Bible might be considered one gigantic lesson in not leaving the game until its over.
- Despair may seem to be winning, but it does not get the last word.
- The deepest depths of despair can be the times when we see our hope more clearly.
- Our passage today will focus on what may be Job's most triumphant expression of faith.
- In it we are reminded that the tragedy of sin led to Christ's wonderful expression of love at the cross.
- And how the cross on which Christ died enabled him to rise from the dead.
- Thank you, Lord, for the cross!
- The cross was God's chosen means by which our redemption was accomplished.
 - *Never has it been more obvious that this world needs redemption—and that redemption is costly. The Cross more than ever, in our language and in our longings, is necessary to bridge the divide between God and us and between ourselves.*
 - *Ravi Zacharias*

My Redeemer Lives Job 19:23-24

- Why does Job want his words inscribed in a book and engraved in a rock forever?
- In the midst of deep despair, Job was convinced that he would never live to see the day when all would be put right.
- He wanted people to know his story of seemingly pointless suffering.
- Job received his encouragement, which has been recorded for us.
- We who have experienced similar discouragement can be sure that God knows our stories too.
- They are recorded and not without meaning.
- And the game still isn't over.

My Redeemer Lives Job 19:25

- The Old Testament Kinsman Redeemer might:
 - Avenge his relative's blood.
 - Reclaim his relative's property.
 - Buy his relative out of slavery.
 - Go to court on behalf of a relative who was wronged.
 - Marry a relative's widow as Boaz married Ruth.

- This concept prepares us to understand how Christ could be asked to pay a price for us that we could not pay ourselves.
- He becomes our Kinsman-Redeemer.
 - *Job is recognizing that ... he cannot stand before God in his own righteousness ... A brother who is willing to shed his blood on Job's behalf is his only hope ... Job foresees the Atonement.*
 - *Prof. T. Habtu, Ethiopian Bible Teacher*

- This is the whole point of the cross.
- Christ acts as our Kinsman-Redeemer, comes to our rescue and pays the debt we cannot pay.

My Redeemer Lives Job 19:26-27

- From where we stand, it's hard to know Job's perspective, living centuries before Christ.
- But with 20/20 hindsight, it's hard not to see the resurrection in Job's words.
- Both Christ's and Job's resurrection can be implied here.

My Redeemer Lives Job 19:28-29

- Job's friends have been accusing him of terrible sins.
- He now has a warning for them.
- On one level, Job certainly was a sinner, but he was no worse a sinner than they were.

- The fact is, all of us need a Redeemer.
- We have all experienced separation from God.
- We all needed Christ to pay the price that he paid for our sins on the cross.

- And we all need to share Job's hope in a resurrection – first Christ's, and then our own.
- We need a Redeemer who has not simply died.
- We need a Redeemer who lives.

My Redeemer Lives Conclusions

- When we consider Christ's resurrection, we are confronted with Christ's cross.
- The cross came first.
- It is an act of costly love that we shall never tire of exploring.
 - *Without the Cross, the chasm that separates us all from truth, love, justice, and forgiveness can never be crossed. The depths of mystery and love found in the Cross can never be fully plumbed, but it must be the lifelong pursuit of the Christian to marvel at its costliness and to celebrate its meaning.*
 - *Ravi Zacharias*
- Upon considering the cross, we are prepared for the resurrection.
- The depths of human sin made Christ's cross a requirement.
- But the game wasn't over.
- From those depths of sorrow, suffering and death, we know that he rose again.
- This is the essence of the gospel.
- Read Paul's verification of this in 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.
- Collectively we can say together that Our Redeemer Lives.
- Individually we can say with Job that My Redeemer Lives.

*He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King!
He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Saviour, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!*

Samuel Medley (1738-1799), English Baptist Minister