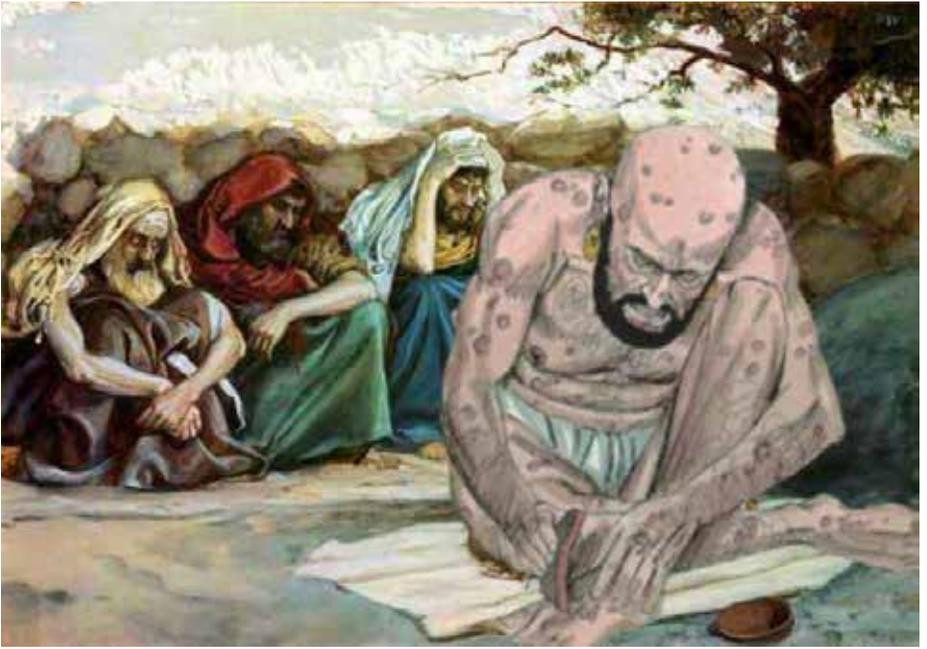


“Now when Job's Three Friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him. And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent every one his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven. So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great.” Job 2:11-13 KJV



God had allowed Satan free rein in testing Job's faith, because God Knew his faith was not of himself. But of God. Satan had based his argument on the human frailty, but God Knew the perfection of Job's faith for He had given it him and Knew it would not fail! Job had lost everything including his health and was not only suffering from physical agony, but from acute mental anguish and grief as well. His three "friends" were no comfort either. Oh, they made a great show of solidarity, but then they sat silent for seven days! Job's poor wife was so torn with sorrow she allowed Satan to use her and she mis-spoke. Remember, she had lost as much as Job. Have you ever felt anguished and alone in the midst of friends? Job was told by his own wife, "Curse God and die!" isn't it funny how Satan will always use those closest to you to attack your faith? Jesus Said, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household." Your faith in God will often put you at odds with loved ones, so when family or friends are suffering, search your own heart before God first before trying to comfort them. Satan will often use shared losses to pit us against one another! Even our "friends" will abuse us! However, even in the midst of tribulation Job retained his integrity for his strength was not of himself, but from the invisible God Who Stood with him!

When friends no comfort, solace bring,  
God's Word will cause sad hearts to sing,  
His Words will us the Vict'ry bring,  
If we to Truth alone will cling! -CGP

Jesus Said, "Lo, I Am with you Always!" Dear Believer, in your darkest hours you are never alone! God Is Present in every moment and place! Jesus Called the Holy Spirit the "Comforter. When He is Come...He will Guide you into all Truth." How does He Comfort us in sorrow? With Truth! Believing God in the sunshine is easy, but trusting Him in the night is Strength only He can Give you with intimate Whispers of Truth in your soul! "Faith Cometh by...the Word of God. We are more than conquerors through Him (the Word) that Loved us. [God] shall with Him freely Give us all things. He careth for you." If you believe God's Word, "the Faith of Jesus Christ" will Strengthen and Comfort you.

"For whatsoever is Born of God Overcometh the world: and this is the Victory that overcometh the world, EVEN OUR FAITH." 1 John 5:4 KJV