

JOB'S THREE DAUGHTERS

“And in all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.” (Job 42:15)



A surface reading of Job 42:15 would appear that in ancient times, it takes having exceptional physical beauty before women were valued equal to sons where an inheritance was given. The penmanship of Almighty God triggers curiosity, drives critical thinking and demands exploration.

To understand Job 42:15, a simple read of Job 1:1-5 and Job 42:12-17, which are the beginning and ending verses of the book, will generate an echo of Job’s words, “My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you” (Job 42:5).

The story of Job most studied is Satan’s attack that caused intense suffering for Job and his incredible spiritual growth that brought him to see God. But, casually written in the introduction and the conclusion is another story that is a direct result of Job’s spiritual condition.

Job was a devout God-fearing and God-serving man. Each year, his seven sons held a celebration that some Bible translations state were birthday parties. They invited their sisters, though their sisters did not have annual celebrations of their own. They did not invite their parents. Their father, Job, was concerned about possible sinful behaviour at these annual celebrations and would offer the next day early in the morning, a sacrifice to God for each of them to bring atonement should any of his children have sinned or cursed God in their hearts.

The focus of the introduction of the book of Job is on his sons who are giving honour to themselves in their annual celebrations. Job had concerns with this activity and settled his worries through a burnt offering to God.

One day, Satan came with the righteous angels to present themselves to God and God took the occasion to recognize the blameless and upright behaviour of Job before Satan. God foresaw the opportunity to take Job to a high point so that he could understand God and His work through a special lens. As anticipated, Satan mocked Job and accredited his loyalty and righteousness to be a result of the blessings God had bestowed upon him. God removed the hedge He placed around Job and allowed Satan to inflict him. The suffering, at the hands of Satan, did not cause Job to stumble rather it brought him higher into God's world. He acquired knowledge beyond the grasp of humanity and came into understanding of the deep things of God. This spiritual growth in Job brought a change visible in the conclusion of the book of Job where the focus unexpectedly moved away from his seven sons to his three daughters.

“The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters” (Job 42:12-15).

The conclusion of Job's story provides a bridge into the great spiritual future of God's people. Job was blessed with a double portion of what he had before his infliction. He received the first-born blessing. God is pointing to the people who are part of the first resurrection. They will receive the first-born blessing of wealth in God's word, His understanding and His wisdom. The first men and women to be resurrected and transformed into eternal beings will also nurture and produce a world-renown body of exceptional religious leaders.

The sons in Job's story were unnamed in the introduction and the conclusion of the book because they were never the focus of the story. Their annual celebrations were the reason for their mention. The important change that resulted from Job's spiritual growth was that the sons born after his affliction did not have annual celebrations for themselves leaving Job to worry. The mirror of learning God uses, provides reflections. The sons born to families on earth image the creation in heaven who rule already over vast dominions. This kingship in heaven is mirrored by God's design through the inheritance sons of families on earth receive automatically. God has provided a mirror for mankind to learn about His view of the two creations, their complementary roles and their future together in His holy, royal ruling family.

Like the sons, the names of the daughters prior to Job's trial are not mentioned. But, after his infliction, the three daughters born are named and declared to be the most beautiful in all the land. God's primary focus is to teach His people spiritual matters. The creation of the male and female gender was an intentional design to demonstrate two different and complementary roles. The female gender came into being after the male gender. It was intended from the very beginning to introduce within a second creation, people who form a religious body of men and

women who are teachers, religious leaders and the congregation that follow the instructions of God. The first creation are national leaders—kings and princes in heaven; the second creation are religious leaders—high priests and priests, lords on earth. The two different types of leadership roles will be fully in effect and bound to operate as one during the reign of Christ in the Millennium.

The Apostle Paul understood the mystery of God's mirroring within the genders. "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and **the two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church**" (Ephesians 5:31-32).

In the faithful marriage relationship, Christ mirrors the man and the church mirrors the woman. Christ is a King from heaven. The church is a religious body from earth.

Naming is very important to God. Names are mentioned when people hold a significant role valued by God. The daughters of Job image three churches known to God from ancient times. He is teaching His people about the change that will take place after the first resurrection where righteous, God-fearing and God-serving men and women are resurrected and transformed into their glorious bodies. They will receive the first-born blessing—a double portion of riches. Through their leadership, guidance and instruction, the three religious centres will blossom in God's word, His law and love.

Jerusalem is the oldest of the three and is the centre of the kingdom of ancient Israel. Jerusalem, into the 21st century, remains an important centre for Israel. In ancient times, it became a city of debauchery. "Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices..." (Ezekiel 16:1) "You, adulterous wife! You prefer strangers to your own husband!" (Ezekiel 16:32)

Jesus said, "**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you**, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37).

In ancient times, both the national leaders and the priesthood became corrupt and in total rebellion against God. God refused to acknowledge the names of Job's sons and daughters because they imaged the badly behaving leaders of ancient Israel where even blameless and upright Job felt the need to atone for them.

A change is still to come. The resurrection and transformation of the first-born and their rulership with Jesus Christ will bring the necessary conversion that will amaze the world. Jerusalem will be re-born and her beauty will be breath-taking. **Jemimah means "dove"** a symbol of peace. Jerusalem, in the Millennium, will be the law-abiding centre living God's law of love and at peace with God and mankind. Finally, God will rest from the rebellion of His people.

Jerusalem had two sisters; the churches of the house of Israel and the house of Judah. "Like mother, like daughter... Your older sister was Samaria [the name of the kingdom of Israel of the ten tribes], who lived to the north of you with her daughters; and your younger sister, who lived to the south of you with her daughters, was Sodom [God is identifying the kingdom of Judah to be no different from the deplorable Sodomites]. [God continued] You [Jerusalem] not only walked in their ways [the ways of Samaria and Judah] and copied their detestable practices, but in all your ways you soon became more depraved than they... Samaria did not commit half the sins you did. You have done more detestable things than they, and have made your sisters seem righteous by all these things you have done" (Ezekiel 16:44, 46-47, 51).

What lured these three churches: Jerusalem, Samaria and Judah to enter into the worship of fallen angels and practice their detestable rituals is difficult to understand. Carnal nature is a significantly limiting spirit that struggles to reach any level of holiness.

History houses many lessons for 21st century believers. The first, those who lived in ancient times who were given much of God's word and witnessed His great miracles, will be last to be resurrected and transformed. It will be the last, those in the 21st century, who will be first.

A change will come. The second oldest daughter's name is **Keziah**. Another spelling of the word is **cassia**. **Cassia oil is like frankincense oil**. It has an **unmistakable fragrance and calming aromatic properties**. It is similar to one of the gifts given to Jesus at his birth. It is expensive, rare, and beautiful.

Cassia bark oil is one of the oldest known spices derived from steam distillation of the cassia bark, leaves and twigs. It has a highly prized aroma very similar to cinnamon bark in both fragrance and in chemistry. It is like frankincense with healing properties. Re-born Christians will learn God's healing ways and become a living model of compassion, enduring patience, eternal love and genuine care for all of mankind. Their beauty will exude the warmth of God's love and His eternal grace.

The third daughter's name is Keren-Happuch, which means the horn of adornment is a reference to the outward beauty that comes from inward character through the keeping of God's laws perfectly. The church of the house of Judah, will in the near future, be a synagogue of experts keeping God's law, freed from the old traditions of the elders. This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In those days ten people from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you'" (Zechariah 8:23).

They touch the hem of the Jew's robe because that is where the reminder of keeping God's law has been placed. Also, it is by no coincidence that God has ten people from all languages and nations because the number ten is also a reminder of God's ten commandments.

The house of Judah, known into the 21st century as the Jews, have a history of honouring God's law, however over time, they added the traditions of the elders which eventually replaced the

law of God. Jesus tried to correct their mistake. “So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, ‘Why don’t your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony.’ Jesus answered them, “Isaiah prophesied correctly about you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me [God] in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men. For you ignore God’s law and substitute your own tradition.’ He went on to say, “You neatly set aside the command of God to maintain your own tradition” (Mark 7:5-9).

The symbolism of a “horn” is having authority. Job’s third daughter will be adorned with authority. Her name identifies the royal authority of the keepers and protectors of God’s law that the future Jewish synagogues will reflect the glistening beauty of a crown that will attract the world’s attention.

God provided reminders for His people to remember His plan for them and all of mankind. Included in these reminders, was a daily reminder to keep His commandments. He instructed the every-day Israelites to hem their outer garment with a blue panel of tassels. It was symbolic of God’s law and a reminder that every Israelites from every tribe had the responsibility to obey God’s commandments. The colour blue and type of fabric reminded every man and woman of their royal calling to be a nation of holy priests.



“Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. And you shall have the tassel, that **you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them**, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God” (Numbers 15:37–40).

Job’s three daughters image the transformation of the wayward kingdom of ancient Israel who will, still in the future, transform their three religious centres into three God-fearing, God-serving, God-loving churches. Their beauty will be seen all around the world. They will be a holy kingdom living God’s way and a kingdom of royal priests modeling for all to see the way of God.

With the sacrifice of Christ and the receiving of God’s Holy Spirit, a new birth is forecasted in the story of Job: the rebirth of Jerusalem, Israel—the Christians, and Judah—the Messianic Jews

all walking in the ways of God. They will fulfill their calling. “But you are **a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession**” (1 Peter 2:9).



These daughters who image the three religious centres of the future kingdom of Israel will receive an inheritance (Job 42:15b). Traditionally, the family inheritance was given to the sons with a double-portion blessing going to the oldest. In ancient Israel, daughters received an inheritance only when there wasn't a son to receive it. In the case of Job, he gave his daughters an inheritance along with his seven sons.

God's holy, royal family, now in the making, is a ruling kingdom. Job's three daughters received an inheritance—rulership. So, as Job's story reveals, God will give an inheritance—rulership to the three religious centres of the future re-united kingdom of Israel. God will move the focus of honour away from the national leaders of countries to three religious centres. Their names will be renown throughout all creation because of their spiritual beauty: their devoted righteousness, their gracious love, and their keeping and protecting of God's law.

Job's story is simple. It is all about the transformation of God's first-born men and women into eternal life and the three religious centres they produce. God will elevate them to take centre stage and the nations of the world will marvel.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich

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