



JERUSALEM : THE EAST GATE FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES

22	6-Mar	SABBATH 4	Isaiah 53	Isaiah 55	our Salvation
23	7-Mar	Sunday	the intricacies in the book of Job / a memory poem for all muslims		
24	8-Mar	Monday	the humour in the book of Job		
25	9-Mar	Tuesday	the 5 steps of GREIF portrayed in the book of Job		
26	10-Mar	Wednesday	intrigue, 3D, the ultimate questions are bigger than life		
27	11-Mar	Thursday	the 28 if's of chapter 31 to describe a job's concept of righteousness		
28	12-Mar	Friday	Job / IYOV vs JESUS		

Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional	Isaiah 53	it's all about "HIS LOVE" for us!		DAY
	GOD created us to have a relationship with HIM!		Ps 50	22
				March 6th, 2010
	Christians have doctored the text (like the JW's)			Sabbath 4
	According to my hebrew friend, this 53rd chapter in Isaiah is not in their original			a day for fasting and prayer
	Hebrew text, and no matter what I say or show him, he believes his statement as truth,			
	because his Rabbi has told him this. Then I read this again in the commentary by David H. Stern			
	a messianic jew, who has translated the BIBLE into a hebrew understanding of the text, that this			
	is a common belief among conservative jews.			
	and then....Muslims believe the Koran is in total the word of GOD ALMIGHTY!			
	and then... Mormons believe the writings of Moroni/Nephi are from GOD ALMIGHTY!			
	<i>Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil (satan) walks about like a roaring lion,</i>			1 Peter 5:8
	<i>seeking whom he can devour!</i>			
	When you meditate on the richness of chapter 53, and re-read the chapters prior to it, I understand how they			
	are disgusted at the language and illustrations,... but what joy it brings to my heart. This was done for me!!!			
	<i>with everlasting kindness, I will have mercy on you,</i>			
	says <i>the LORD, YOUR REDEEMER!</i>			Isaiah 54: 8
Illustration	Eichenfeld: my mother's village			
	She was 15 years old, on the morning they took her father to the well and shot him!			
	The bandits arrived on the farm yard in southern Ukraine in the morning of October 26th, 1919			
	and asked her father to come out. They said they were going to shoot him.			
	As my mother related the story to me, as a five year old, she said her father asked whether he could			
	pray before they shot him and they said yes. So he prayed for his accusers and for the safety of his family.			
	Then they shot him in the front yard, at the well. The hooped and hollered and roared off to the next			
	farm yard. My mother and her siblings (her mother had died) carried their father into the house,			
	and laid him on the dining room table, right at the front entrance to the house. This would be instrumental			
	in their safety, for when the bandits came back in the afternoon to rape and steal, they being very			
	superstitious, would not come into the house with a dead body lying in front of them.			
	That day, 77 men over 15 years of age and 6 women who protested, were shot in this small village			
	Most of the people were shot behind the barns, so that they could loot and rape as they chose, without			
	a corpse in the way of their intended deeds.			
	My mother could have challenged me to have vengeance, and I would have committed my life to it.			
	Instead she spoke of prayer, and her father's trust in the LORD, even in the evil of the day.			
	Many menonites have gone back to this part of the world to help, build hospitals, bring food, or supplies			
	and Ruth herself, has made 2 trips and is planning for another this fall.			
	All I can hear, is my grandfather's blessing on his family and his murderers.			
	JESUS said " FATHER , forgive them, for they know not what they are doing!			Luke 23: 34

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I WAITED
EXPECTANTLY
FOR THE

LORD

MANY WILL SEE + FEAR + PUT THEIR TRUST IN
MANY WILL SEE + FEAR + TRUST. MANY WILL FEAR + SEE + TRUST. MANY WILL FEAR + SEE + TRUST. MANY WILL FEAR + SEE + TRUST.

- 1 THE LORD TURNED TO ME!
- 2 THE LORD HEARD MY CRY!
- 3 THE LORD LIFTED ME OUT OF A SLIMY PIT!
- 4 THE LORD PULLED ME OUT OF THE MUD + MIRE!
- 5 THE LORD SET MY FEET ON A ROCK!
- 6 THE LORD GAVE ME A PLACE TO STAND!
- 7 THE LORD PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH!
A HYMN OF PRAISE TO OUR GOD

Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional	The intricacies in the Book of Job	DAY 23 March 7th, 2010 Sunday
GOD has a long term plan!		
The Book of Job is a long poem, memorized by everyone in the east. My Iranian friends tell me that in their MUSLIM school, they had to memorize the Book of Job, much like we would have a play from Shakespeare, and then acted it out in parts. Their teacher said it was important because it set out the basics of a "good man" loved by GOD .		
so JESUS would have had to memorize this book, and being in-grained in this thoughts, HE would take to answer the questions in the poem, because everyone had memorized it.		
The BOOK of JOB should be first book of the bible, in chronological order. The writing predates Moses's five books. The poem never uses the phrase YAHWEH , but always addresses GOD , as EL SHADDAI, (GOD ALMIGHTY) , similar to the time of Abram. From the Aramaic language, translated into Arabic. My friend's teacher told them that some of the terms were hard to translate from the original, and he could only guess at some of the meanings of the verses, as they were made to rhyme in Arabic as well. (like translating low german into english)		
The poem hi-lites some very basic questions?		
Why does GOD allow suffering?		
What is the purpose of a Human Being?		
Is there LIFE after death?		
Will the devil win the chess match?		
Illustration	2643 Hardy Crescent, North Vancouver. V7H 1K3	
We have lived in this house for 27 years, but it was not always that easy.		
When the economy dipped in 1975, we had to sell our house and move. First we moved into houses we had built, as they also were no selling, and as each one sold, we moved to the next. After the last one sold, we began to rent. Tired of renting we pleaded with GOD, for a permanent location, but nothing materialized.		
One afternoon at the office, Ruth was asked to host a tupperware party by one of our secretarial staff.		
Our rental house was delapidated to say the least, with a small livingroom, but she felt she could not say no.		
At the end of the party, one of the guests as they were leaving, asked if we were looking for another rental house. They had just bought a house, and were vacating their rental location on Hardy Crescent.		
She gave Ruth the agent's phone number and left.		
Our prayer list for a house had 12 items. 3 non-negotiable, 3 somewhat negotiable, 3 other wants, and 3 for fun.		
I phoned the agent because 2 of the top 3 were met. On the North Shore (Blueridge) and 4 bedrooms. The 3rd was the amount we could afford for rent. \$750. (1982) I was given an appointment. Upon arrival, I found out that secretary was the mother of twins I was coaching in soccer. Also the agent was a member of a mennonite church, (his name was Jones), and he knew of me, but I was only told this a year later.		
When he said the price was \$900 per month, my heart dropped, and I said I would speak with my wife.		
I filled out all the forms, but my heart was heavy. I also had not seen the house. That night Ruth and I prayed, but we knew we could not afford the house plus the clause of a month to month rental, not a year.		
We were tired of moving our children from one school to the next, and a month to month was the worst.		
In my telephone conversation, I explained my issues on why I had to decline from the rental, and he jumped right in with, "well since it is month to month, I see your point, I will give it to you for \$750.00 and I will promise you, I will give you at least 3 months notice should we (Chevron) decide to sell the house.		
	When we went to check out the house, all 12 items on our prayer list were met! HALLELUJAH!	
	including the just for fun ones, like a creek in the back yard.	
	JESUS said " Woman, behold your son!	
	then JESUS said to his disciple, " Behold your mother!	John 19: 26

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Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional	The "humour" in the Book of Job.					DAY 24 March 8th Monday
GOD has a real sense of humour: HE created you and me!						
One evening as I was reading the Book of Job, I broke into historical laughter.						
Ruth came rushing into the room to ask what was so funny. I showed her Job 14: 13.						
Oh that YOU would hide me in the grave, that YOU would conceal me until your wrath is past, then appoint me a set time (on your rolodex) and remember me.						Job 14: 13
Job is talking to GOD, as I talk to me business partners.						
Please set aside some time for me, when you are not busy.						
Unheard of!						
Job is talking to GOD like a business partner						
but then again, how clear the language, giving his partner the option to come to him.						
or as if GOD were having a bad hair day, and needed a rest.						
these thoughts ran through my head, and I began to laugh.						
there were funny parts to this book I had overlooked.						
then there are the humorous/sarcastic comments Job makes about his 3 friends						
sample	Job 12: 2	Job 13: 2	Job 16: 11	Job 30: 1	Job 30: 29	
what about the humorous comments Job makes about his disease						
sample	Job 7: 19	Job 9: 27	Job 9: 31	Job 13: 28	Job 16: 15	
Illustration	no trinkets whatsoever.					
On my flight to Hong Kong sitting in "Business Class" on a frequent flyer upgrade, I saw my neighbour stuffing the elegant airline wine glasses into his brief case. Then GOD spoke to me. You are to put nothing of the sort into your breifcase of suitcase, no souvenirs of any kind, big or small.						
I was scheduled to fly to Beijing from Hong Kong the next day, so in the Hotel I checked that my bags were totally clean as requested. I chose to pack my clothes and my BIBLE into the suitcase, and put all my business files into my carry on. I also dressed in my suit, because right from the airport , I was to attend an official meeting. The BIBLE would always go into my carry on, but the bag was stuffed						
The BIBLE was a gift from Ruth. A leather bound " Jerusalem Bible" translation I was reading to augment the many other versions I had at my desk. I had used it for 2 years, and it was well high lighted with my favourite verses and texts. Lots of yellow, orange, and pink, plus side notes in my handwriting.						
At the airport, the porter put all the bags into the trunk. There was a bit of confusion until I realized that the porter wanted me to sit in the front seat, not in the back as we normally would do. When I arrived at the meeting spot, the trunk did not have my suitcase in it. The diversion had had a purpose.						
As I analysis what was missing, the only item of value was my BIBLE. The clothes I could replace. All my files were with me. Then I understood the whisper of GOD. HE had planned to give away my BIBLE, and there was to be no extra trinkets found inside the suitcase, except for the well marked up BIBLE and clothes.						
	so if you see a BIBLE with my name engraved on the cover, ask the new owner how it has blessed him.					
	The Very Rev Harry Robinson said he could not read the BIBLE before going to bed as it gave him goosebumps and would keep him awake," so I read the 'Atlantic Monthly', to put me to sleep."					

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Meditations during LENT

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Week 4

Devotional		The 5 stages of GRIEF in the Book of Job.		DAY 25 March 9th Tuesday
GOD 'always'				
There are 5 stages of GREIF, that everyone walks through, and so in the story!				
This could be a death, also: a divorce, lose of mobility, cashflow, etc				
1	SHOCK / DENIAL	self pity		Job 3
Why did it happen to me! I did not deserve this.				
2	ANGER / the right to challenge everything, including GOD!			Job 6 / 7
Blaming others and yourself for the event.				
Suffering is for bad people, not me, I am good.				
3	GUILT / REGRET	isolation and rejection		Job 19 / 23
I should of cleared things up before he died! Etc.				
4	DEPRESSION / "if only I had" / panic / distrust / anxiety			Job 23 / 24
second guessing the events that brought about the situation and trying to blame others				
Grief brings out the rotten garbage in your life, which you can reuse or stuff in a garbage can for garbage day!				
YOU WILL REPEAT THE ABOVE 4 STEPS, many times, UNTIL YOU MAKE A CHOICE TO MOVE ON				
5	ACCEPTANCE	choosing to forgive / begin to share the story / PRAISE THE LORD!		Job 19: 25
You give up trying to understand, and move on.				Job 16: 2
Though it hurts like stink, and will continue to be very painful, you turn the corner, and move on				Job 28: 28
it does not mean forgetting, as in some days,... the reality still hits like a MACK TRUCK.				Job 31: 40
Illustration in her memorization of Psalm 40, Ruth discovered we do 1 thing, while GOD does 7				
Psalm 40				
v1	OUR ASSIGNMENT	to wait on the LORD, in expectant patience	palms up, and moving in anticipation	
1	THE LORD	inclined to me		
2	THE LORD	heard my cry		
v2	3	THE LORD	brought me out of a horrible pit	
4	THE LORD	brought me out of the miry clay		
5	THE LORD	set my feet upon a rock		
6	THE LORD	established my steps		
v3	7	THE LORD	put a 'new song' in my mouth, "PRAISE TO GOD"!	
THE RESULT				
	MANY WILL SEE IT AND FEAR, AND WILL TRUST IN THE LORD!			
read also verses 9 and 10				
				quote
JESUS said " MY GOD, MY GOD, why have YOU, forsaken me?				Psalm 22: 1
				Mark 15: 34

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Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional	The bigger than LIFE questions in Job?	DAY 26 March 10th Wednesday
GOD 'always' answers your questions!		
Does GOD really care about beings made out of dust?		
If we are made out of dust, are we fit for HEAVEN?		
Eliphaz	Can a man be profitable to GOD ? <i>Is it any pleasure to the ALMIGHTY, that you (Job) are righteous?</i>	Job 22: 2
Job	Why do the wicked live and become old? ... <i>When I looked for good, evil came to see me, and when I waited for light, then darkness came!</i>	Job 21: 7 Job 30: 26
Eliphaz	Can a mortal man be more righteous than GOD ?	Job 4: 17
Job	What is man that YOU should magnify him? ...	Job 7: 17
Job	YOUR HANDS have made me and fashioned me; an intricate unity, yet YOU would destroy me?	Job 10: 8
	there are many more! JESUS , in my studies, answers every one of them!	
Illustration	take the KEY!	
<p>My Monday morning was in a sham. GOD was trying to get my attention, and I was busy.</p> <p>The good LORD had given me so much work, I was swamped. I needed the cash flow!</p> <p>I had worked out my schedules, and for 4 weeks non stop 14 hour days I would complete the work on time.</p> <p>Now HE was asking me to use Wednesday of this week to open up the church for a funeral.</p> <p>The phone call had come on Saturday, to see if our church building was available for a funeral.</p> <p>The funeral was for a 'group home resident' who did not have a church home, but was a committed christian.</p> <p>Would I be able to secure the church for the funeral. In checking with the church secretary, she said that Wednesday afternoon was free, so I had called back with the OK.</p> <p>Why do I need to take to take the KEY, LORD?, there are staff there, plus the church is available and open.</p> <p>After a lengthy discussion, I said yes! On Wednesday I felt a strong urge to be there at 11am, not 2pm as the program called for. On my arrival I saw the stage was cluttered with Sunday stuff, which I removed. Then I saw that we would need a microphone set up, as all was locked away. (but I had a key) Staff at first said no however I was able to twist an arm. While it was being set up, the caterer arrived with plates of food, so I unlocked the front door (I had a master key). I propped the door open, when I saw many people in the shadows outside, however, I recognized them as "group home members". They recognized me, and asked if they could come in. This is 2 hours before the service. Of course, I said. Then all the church staff disappeared for an off-site church meeting, but they were not concerned as they saw that I was in charge. (so now it is more than the key)</p> <p>The light is being to go on in my brain.!</p> <p>I made coffee for the guests, and many just hung around the lobby, so I made more coffee.</p> <p>Was there another reason LORD? I continued to get the food laid out, and the juice set up.</p> <p>so HE nudged me into the sanctuary after the service had gone on for an hour, and I heard the chief medical doctor for the North shore share his powerful testimony and walk of faith with the "memorial" guests.</p> <p>WOW now I understood why taking the KEY was so important.!</p> <p>BONUS I got all my work done in 2 weeks instead of 4.</p> <p>The Governor asked HIM, "Are you the King of the Jews"?</p> <p>JESUS said " it is as you say!</p>		
		Mt 27: 11

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Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional		The 28 if's of Chapter 31 describe Job's righteousness!	DAY 27 March 11th Thursday
GOD declares Iyov "righteous"!			
		These 28 statements of righteousness are impossible to keep. You need to be a super spiritual giant, with lots of spiritual discipline, and GOD's Spirit to indulge.	
		Read the 31st chapter slowly and list the 28 items. They all start with (or a form of) if .	
		then look for JESUS's answers in the gospels	
		Job's motto is fantastic:stick it on your fridge!	
		<i>Does GOD not see my ways, and count all my steps?</i>	Job 31: 4
		take the first of the 28	
1	<i>I have made a covenant with my eyes, why should I look upon a young woman?</i>		Job 31: 1
		The "Message" translation, "to undress a girl with my eyes"?	
		JESUS answers this one in Matthew 5: 28, as he does all the rest of them in the red letter gospels.	
		<i>Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her, has already committed adultery with her in his heart.</i>	
2	v5a	if have walked with falsehood	
3	v5b	if my foot has hastened to deceit	
4	v7a	if my step has turned from the way	
5	v7b	if my heart walked after my eyes	
6	v7c	if any spot adheres to my hands	
7	v9a	if my heart has been enticed by a woman	
8	v9b	if I have lurked at my neighbour's door	
9	v13	if I have despised the cause of my man servant or maid servant	
10	v16a	if I have kept the poor from their desire	
11	v16b	if I have caused the eye of the widow to fail	
12	v17	if I have eaten my morsel of bread by myself	
13	v19a	if I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing	
14	v19b	if there has been a poor man without covering	
15	v21	if I have raised my hand against the fatherless	
16	v24a	if I have made gold my hope	
17	v24b	if I had said to fine gold "you are my confidence".!	
18	v25a	if I had rejoiced because my wealth was great	
19	v25b	if I had rejoiced because my hand had gained much	
20	v26	if I had observed the sun when it shines, or been enticed by the moon	
21	v29a	if I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me	
22	v29b	if I had lifted myself up when evil found him who hated me	
23	v30	if I had asked for a curse on his soul	
24	v31	if the men of my tent had not been satisfied with my meat or my doors to sojourners	
25	v33	if I had covered my transgressions as Adam, by hiding	
26	v38	if my land cries out against me	
27	v39a	if I have eaten the fruit of the land without payment	
28	v39b	if I have caused the tenants of the property to lose their lives	
		THEN! GOD would have zapped me, Job claims.	
		we are given a specification for what a righteous / blameless human looks like, as an example of ONE to come and then when GOD's MESSIAH arrives, we are told HE did not sin, and was blameless!	Phil 2: 5 - 10
		WOW!	
		"THE FATHER said, This is MY BELOVED SON, in whom I am well pleased!	Mt 17: 5

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Meditations during LENT

2010

Week 4

Devotional	Job's love for HIS CREATOR is documented.		DAY 28 March 12th Friday
	God loves Iyov (Job) and Iyov loves GOD .		
	The 'Book of Job' documents a love affair between GOD,> HIMSELF and Job.		
	In the entire 42 chapters there is no mention of JESUS , but the inference is amazing. The following points may allow you see this!		
	The character and person of Job, is a forerunner of " THE GLORIOUS SERVANT " to come.		
1	Iyov, rises early in the morning to worship GOD! GOD declares Iyov as HIS SERVANT! JESUS gets up early to spend time with HIS FATHER .	Worship	Job 1: 5 Job 1: 8 Mark 1: 35
2	Iyov, offers burnt offerings on behalf of his children! GOD declares Iyov as HIS SERVANT! JESUS offers HIMSELF , as the sacrifice.	High Priest	Job 1: 5 Job 1: 8 Heb 4: 14
3	Iyov, states to his fellow friends that he is blameless. GOD declares Iyov as blameless! The Apostle Paul declares JESUS blameless Pilate, the Roman governor, declares JESUS blameless Isaiah declares THE MESSIAH as blameless	blameless	Job 23:10 Job 1:8 Heb 5: 9 John 18: 38 Isaiah 53
4	Iyov, states to his fellow friends that he is righteous. GOD declares Iyov as righteous! The Apostle Paul declares JESUS righteous. The Roman Centurion, declares JESUS a righteous man! John, the apostle declares THE MESSIAH as righteous.	righteous	Job 31: 1 - 40 Job 1: 8 Heb 5: 9 Luke 23: 27 1 Jn 2:1
5	Iyov, declares that only GOD has done this to him. GOD declares that satan could not do this to Iyov, unless HE allows it. JESUS says without HIM , you can do nothing! JESUS says HE and GOD are ONE, and they will come and make their home with us	GOD only!	Job 19: 6 Job 2: 3 Jn 15: 5 Jn 14: 23
6	Iyov, will not allow his wife or children to curse GOD! GOD declares Iyov has integrity. JESUS honours GOD in everything!	no cursing integrity servant	Job 1: 5 / 2:10 Job 2: 3 Jn 4: 34
7	Iyov, can be described as a " suffering servant "! GOD declares Iyov as HIS SERVANT! JESUS suffering at the crucifixion is legendary! Isaiah calls the MESSIAH , one who suffers on our behalf!	Suffering Servant	Job 3:20 Job 1: 8 Jn 19: 1 Isaiah 53
	Job is a forerunner: showing us what is to come! A servant who was loved!		

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