



Job 1:22

In all this Job sinned not, nor charge God foolishly

Subject: Don't be A Dropout.

These are not merely days of disaster in which we live, but days of darkness. Like Job, we go forward but He is not there, and backward, but we cannot perceive Him; on the left hand where He doth work, we cannot see Him. "These are days when the unexplainable happens, the dark sinister, thing that don't make sense, days when what we have always believed seems crushed and Satan laughs and tells us our faith is a fraud.

Truly these convictions sure are times "times that try the souls of men". When men hearts are failing because of fear. In these times of international conflicts, national crisis, political upheavals conflicting ideologies bewildering philosophies confusing theologies, ologies, personal misfortunes, many christians are falling away from the faith "Once delivered to the saints crooked ways in life seek to entice us from the straight and narrow. Life highway is so rough as to jar the very heart out of each of us. We all have the escapist impulse. When the journey becomes rough and the burdens back-breaking many begin to toy with the idea of dropping out of the procession. A person exclaims "I've had it, I can't take anymore" exclaims "I've had it, I can't take anymore." Under the stress and strain of today's living, many have already withdrawn, become detached. Truly this is an age of "Dropouts." The educational system has made a detailed study of "Dropouts". They have found that only three(3) out of ten(10) from the ghettos and other areas of abject poverty finish High School. They drop out. To go further, probably two(2) out of twenty-five(25) finish college.

To drop out means to quit trying, cut loose, giveup. Person dropout of the one thing that is worthwhile, but costly, dropout another thing that is worthwhile, but costly, dropout another thing that is cheap and destructive. Children who drop out of school without a legitimate cause, will often drop out of society. Society dropouts now days are known as Hippies they turn on into jail but of all the convicted and "dropouts" tragedies, none is to be compared to Spiritual Dropouts.

There are numerous reasons for so many afraid to tackle life's problems, dislikes for others who may be involved, being in a position one would not like to be in. Or maybe they are like Paul's one time companion Demas, who loved his present world more than he loved our Lord.

Some people who have dropped out of school have gotten involved in something else that gives them happiness and makes them successful. This is not so with the Spiritual dropouts, the person who dropout of Church. They are known as turnbacks or backslider and according to the bible they will never reach a glorious conclusion "He that endureth to the end shall be saved."

This morning we have the story of a man who refused to be a dropout, one who had every conceivable reason to do so. This character Job is one of the most familiar in the bible, and the story of his life is contained in the book believed by many scholars to be the oldest in the bible. When we first meet Him, he is a prosperous and Godly father, presiding as a priest and ministering to his entire household. Life is good. There is no trouble in the home, no burdensome economics. Health is fine. The family is well situated and respected in the community. What more could anyone desire? There is a council in the heaven and Satan tells God that Job is good because he is prosperous, "Take away his prosperity and he will let his Godliness go". This is a Challenge. God gives Satan permission to do anything he desires to Job with the exception of taking his life. God knows that Job is a good man who fears God and eschewes evil.

Fast and furious are the losses Satan inflicts a foreign band invades and kills Jobs servants. Fire falls from the sky and kills his sheep his camels are stolen. While the Children are having fellowship in the home still return thine integrity? curse God die." but he said, "Thou speakest one of the foolish women. What shall we receive good at one hand of God and shall we not receive evil. "In all this Job did not sin with his lips. Even friends looked upon him with disdain. Job moans, "I am their by word they me". Council is offered by his friends, but they intensify his misery. In all of this witness in Heaven record we hear Job crying, "though he slay me, yet will I trust Him."

That's faith's culminatum. "Dropout Job" Get out of your misery. You see all hope is gone. Curse God and die. But Job had a kind of faith that would not shrink through pressure by every foe. Faith that prevented him from dropping out. Faith in God sees the imitation, he fell but he didn't dropout. David lost a few battles but he didn't lose the war. Moses had trouble with Ahad, and he had his Juniper tree experience, but he didn't dropout. Little Joseph had trouble when he was sold by his brother, but he didn't dropout. Daniel had trouble in Babylon, business went as usual "Three times a day he kept on opening his window and sending prayer telegrams to Jerusalem. Jesus didn't dropout, they tried to kill during the first weeks of his life. The religious leaders of the day turned against Him, They wanted him out of the way. They surround him with spies and prevented his teaching. They told abominable lies about Him, astracize Him because He consorted with sinners one of His trusted friends sold him for silver, the of the them that time ran away and left Him when the going got rough. On the night He was betrayed the air was thick with hate and injustice and evil was on the march. The garden of Gethsemane was a great trial for our Lord, again he was tempted to dropout" but he didn't "not my will". In spite of the darkness Jesus walked to calvary with an unflinching faith.

Spikes driven into his hands and feet, yet he drew from a beyond himself. He was to use this phrase from the old son "Leaning on his the everlasting arms. Don't dropout, I've made up my mind to keep on running the race. I will not dropout when everything goes wrong. In spite of burdens, hardship responsibilities, I know about the perils of the journey I'm not unconscious of rough rough roads ahead. I know there is stone infested mountains we must climb shadows may be deep but I'm going on, when enemies have said their last bitter words, when this world has done it's bit to block the highway of truth and troubled the soul. I'm going on. Our journey is not determined by the short stand between the cradle and the grave. Dust is not our destiny and death is not the goal of life. There is a land of pure delight



SERMON OF THE WEEK

BY Evangelist Johnnie Powell

"THE LORD'S VOICE CRIETH UNTO THE CITY" Micah 6:9.

Today if you will hear his Voice harden not your hearts heb.5:7. As an elect of God, Holy and beloved, then you have bowels of ness, longsuffering, forbearing and forgoing. one another in lowliness of heart. To po- Father, who maketh his angles spirits and his ministers a flame of fire heb.1:7-Col. 3:12. Jesus said: Matt.11:29. "take my yoke unto your souls.

Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit Rev. 20:11 the Earth and the Heaven fled away and there was found no place for them. Rev.21:1. and I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth for the first Heaven and gives us to know that the meek only in th

There are many ministers and pastors who know more of the scriptures than this humble person, but, they refuse to preach the Word of God, neither will they teach others to do so. A minister of G apt to teach, patient in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves if God will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will IITim2:24, word, You who are ministers of God's house, truth, nothing but the whole truth, is already in danger of hell fire. Now why would you

that you can not take with you, or to hold on to prestige of being Elder big or Rev. hear this: their blood shall be required at your hand. These preachers will not obey

take you into his kingdom from your dying to take. Why don't you be fore-warned while there is life in your body. Do you know for sure that your name is not next on the obituary list. Let us obey God now and for-ever-more. AMAN

where saints immortal dwell. So we pass on through this veil of tears to that far away

strand where we never grow old. "DON'T BE A DROPOUT" Rewards passed out crowns distributed.