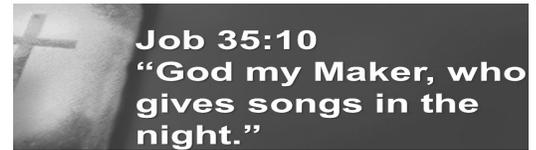


## THE BOOK OF JOB –

### “The Suffering and Consolation of the Christian”

Date: 4-8-18 Lesson: 18 Text: Chapters 34, 35

Theme: **“God my Maker, who gives songs in the night”**



**Text: (Job 34:1-37)** Then Elihu answered and said: (2) "Hear my words, you wise men, and give ear to me, you who know; (3) for the ear tests words as the palate tastes food. (4) Let us choose what is right; let us know among ourselves what is good. (5) For Job has said, 'I am in the right, and **God** has taken away my right; (6) in spite of my right I am counted a liar; my wound is incurable, though I am without transgression.' (7) What man is like Job, who drinks up scoffing like water, (8) who travels in company with evildoers and walks with wicked men? (9) For he has said, 'It profits a man nothing that he should take delight **in God**.'

(10) "Therefore, hear me, you men of understanding: far be it from **God** that he should do wickedness, and from **the Almighty** that he should do wrong. (11) For according to the work of a man he will repay him, and according to his ways he will make it befall him. (12) Of a truth, **God** will not do wickedly, **and the Almighty** will not pervert justice. (13) **Who gave him charge over the earth, and who laid on him the whole world? (14) If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, (15) all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.**

(16) "If you have understanding, hear this; listen to what I say. (17) Shall one who hates justice govern? Will you condemn him who is righteous and mighty, (18) who says to a king, 'Worthless one,' and to nobles, 'Wicked man,' (19) who shows no partiality to princes, nor regards the rich more than the poor, for they are all the work of his hands? (20) In a moment they die; at midnight the people are shaken and pass away, and the mighty are taken away by no human hand. (21) "For **his eyes** are on the ways of a man, and **he sees** all his steps. (22) There is no gloom or deep darkness where evildoers may hide themselves.

(23) For **God** has no need to consider a man further, that he should go before **God** in judgment. (24) **He** shatters the mighty without investigation and sets others in their place. (25) Thus, knowing their works, **he** overturns them in the night, and they are crushed. (26) **He** strikes them for their wickedness in a place for all to see, (27) because they turned aside from following **him** and had no regard for any of **his ways**, (28) so that they caused the cry of the poor to come to **him**, and **he heard** the cry of the afflicted-- (29) When **he is quiet**, who can condemn? When **he hides his face**, who can behold **him**, whether it be a nation or a man?-- (30) that a godless man should not reign, that he should not ensnare the people.

(31) "For has anyone said to **God**, 'I have borne punishment; I will not offend any more; (32) teach me what I do not see; if I have done iniquity, I will do it no more'? (33) Will **he then make repayment** to suit you, because you reject it? For you must choose, and not I; therefore declare what you know. (34) Men of understanding will say to me, and the wise man who hears me will say: (35) 'Job speaks without knowledge; his words are without insight.' (36) Would that Job were tried to the end, because he answers like wicked men. (37) For he adds rebellion to his sin; he claps his hands among us and multiplies his words against **God**."

**(Job 35:1-16)** And Elihu answered and said: (2) "Do you think this to be just? Do you say, 'It is my right before **God**,' (3) that you ask, 'What advantage have I? How am I better off than if I had sinned?' (4) I will answer you and your friends with you. (5) Look at the heavens, and see; and behold the clouds, which are higher than you. (6) If you have sinned, what do you accomplish against **him**? And if your transgressions are multiplied, what do you do to him? (7) If you are righteous, what do you give to him? Or what does **he receive** from your hand? (8) Your wickedness concerns a man like yourself, and your righteousness a son of man. (9) "Because of the multitude of oppressions people cry out; they call for help because of the arm of the mighty.

(10) But none says, 'Where is **God my Maker, who gives songs in the night**, (11) **who teaches us** more than the beasts of the earth and **makes us wiser** than the birds of the heavens?' (12) There they cry out, but **he does not answer**, because of the pride of evil men. (13) Surely **God** does not hear an empty cry, nor does **the Almighty** regard it. (14) How much less when you say that you do not see **him**, that the case is before **him**, and you are waiting for **him**! (15) And now, because **his anger** does not punish, and **he does not take much note of transgression**, (16) Job opens his mouth in empty talk; he multiplies words without knowledge."

## STUDY NOTES:

- The Almighty- of a truth, God will not do wickedly, and the Almighty will not pervert justice.  
(Ps 92:15; Rom 3:5; 9:14; Col 3:25; 2 Th 1:6; Heb 6:18; Titus 1:2)  
  
-For according to the work of a man he will repay him, and according to his ways he will make it befall him.  
(Mt 16:27; Lk 15:21; Rom 2:6; 7:24; 2 Cor 5:10; 1 Jn 1:8-10; 1 Pet 1:17; Rev 22:12)  
  
- God - who gave him charge over the earth, and who laid on him the whole world? If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.  
(Gen 2:7; 3:19; 6:3,13; Eccl 12:7; Is 40:14; Rom 3:5-6; 8:34; Heb 1:2; 4:13)
- Where is God my Maker (Dt 32:6; Ps 95:6; Prov 22:2; Is 17:7)  
  
-who gives songs in the night (Ps 42:8; 77:6; 119:62; 149:5; Ac 16:25)  
  
-who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth (Ps 94:12; Is 28:26; Lk 12:24)  
  
- makes us wiser than the birds of the heavens (Mt 6:26; 1 Cor 1:25)

## LUTHER'S WORKS – Volume 38, Page 123 – The Singing of Songs and Hymns in the Church

“WHEREVER the word “song” (*canticum*) is used in psalm titles, it must always be understood that such a psalm is one of joy and dancing and is to be sung with a feeling of rejoicing. For a song and singing spring from the fullness of a rejoicing heart. But a spiritual song, or spiritual melody, is the very jubilation of the heart. So the title means: This psalm is for triumph, or a triumphal song, about Christ and the church, which are roses or lilies, a spiritual instruction revealed to the sons of Korah, a song of the beloved, Christ and the church, which are loved by each other...

*With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.* After the word of the Gospel has been preached and the voice of rejoicing has sounded forth, there follows the discernment of spirits and the distribution of the gifts of the Spirit of which 1 Cor. 12:4 speaks. Christ says in John 7:38: “He who believes in Me, out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.” Waters denote the Holy Spirit, as in John 4:10. In the noonday heat spring water and running water are the most refreshing. So it is in the scorching heat of sin. The comfort of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God is then most sweet. The wells of salvation are the Gospel, sermons about Christ in various places, or even the preachers of the Gospel. In that day, when the waters will have flowed out to many because the Gospel has already been preached, there will follow also in others the praise, that is, the sacrifice which you have...

As a result of such an understanding I believe that many hymns were included and retained in the divine service which deal with thanking and praising [God] in a wonderful and excellent way, as for example, the Gloria in Excelsis, the Alleluia, the Lord’s Prayer, the Preface, the Sanctus, the Benedictus, and the Agnus Dei. In these various parts you find nothing about a sacrifice but only praise and thanks.... Particularly the Agnus Dei, above all songs, serves well for the sacrament, for it clearly sings about and praises Christ for having borne our sins and in beautiful, brief words powerfully and sweetly teaches the remembrance of Christ... whatever is publicly sung by the choir or the multitude is essentially a good thing and a hymn of praise.”

## LIFE APPLICATION:

If God is our Maker  
(who gives us songs in the night, and who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth and  
who makes us wiser than the birds of the heavens)  
how can we then go confidently through this life on earth into the next life in heaven?