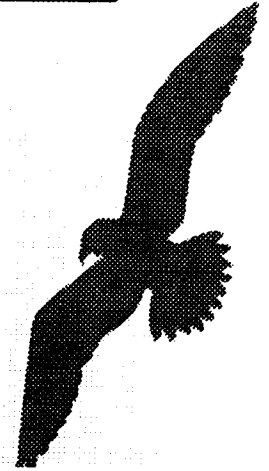


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings
as eagles."
Isaiah 40:31*



AERY NUGGETS

"Behold, we count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful." James 5:11

My God, My Father! Blissful Name!

*"My God, my Father! Blissful Name!
I now may call Thee mine---
May now with sweet assurance claim
A portion so divine!*

*Whate'er Thy providence denies
I calmly would resign,
For Thou art just, and good, and wise;
Oh, bend my will to thine!*

*Whate'er Thy sacred will ordains,
Oh, give me strength to bear!
Teach me to know my Father reigns.
And trust His tender care.*

*Thy sov'reign ways are oft unknown
To my weak, erring sight,
Yet shall my soul adoring own
That all Thy ways are right.*

—Anne Steele

Dear Friends,

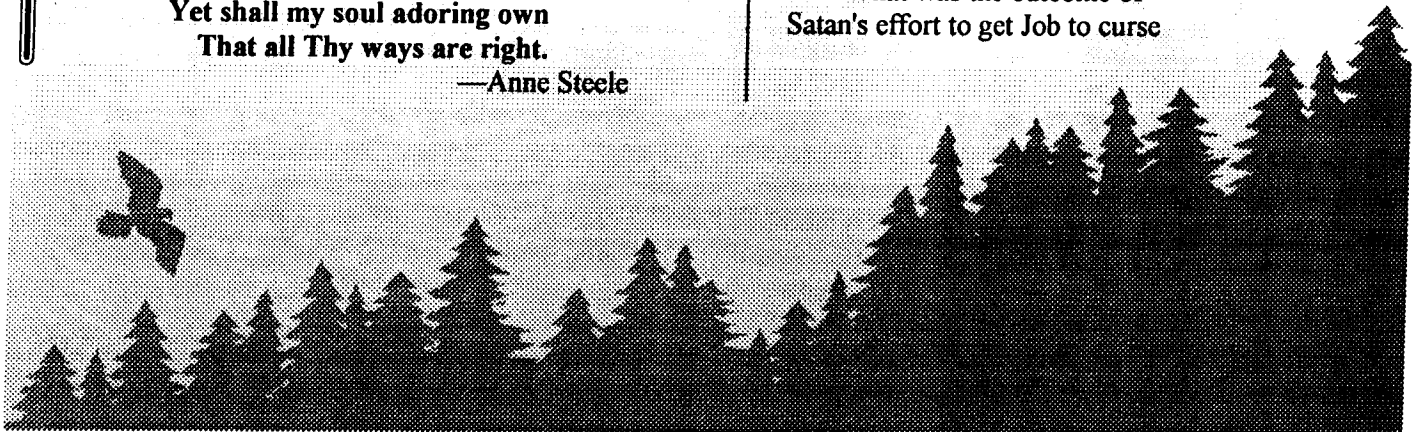
I would like to look at some of the words of comfort from the book of Job. The great losses that he endured came into his life like waves of the sea. His responses to those losses have been an inspiration to many of God's suffering saints.

The Bible tells us that Job's life was upright or blameless, that he feared God and turned away from all that was evil. God even called Satan's attention to His servant Job and his godly life.

Satan told God that if He would take away the hedge which He had placed around Job and allow him (Satan) to take away all of Job's possessions then Job would curse God to His face. The Lord then gave Satan permission to do what he wanted to do with Job.

*What a comfort to know
that Satan can never be allowed
to touch us unless God allows
him to do so.* Satan did his worst and Job lost all his possessions and what was even worse, his seven sons and three daughters.

What was the outcome of Satan's effort to get Job to curse



God at this sad time in Job's life? Job said, "the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord." Job 1:21.

Did Satan give up? No, not yet! God allowed him to afflict his body with sore boils from head to foot. Job's wife told him to curse God and die. Job answered, "What? Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips."

Throughout the trial and sorrow Job wavered between hope and despair, at one time wishing that he had never been born. Job 3:1. Sometimes he maintained his own righteousness and questioned God's dealings with him. Job 33:10, 34:5. But there were also times in these dark moments that Job's faith reached out to the living God.

Here are two of those statements of his faith. "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins (or inmost soul) be consumed within me." Job 19:25-27.

We may not know why God has allowed certain things to happen in our lives but one thing we do know: **Our Redeemer liveth and we shall one day see Him face to face!** *Then we shall know and understand the reason for all the difficult things that took place in our lives. And we shall praise Him for it all.*

The second statement that dear Job made is found in chapter 23:8-10. "Behold, I go forward, but He is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive Him: on the left hand, where He doth work, but I cannot behold Him: He hideth Himself on the right hand, that I cannot see Him: but He knowth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Job felt deserted by God at this time. Whether he looked for Him on the left hand or the right hand, backwards or forward he could not see Him. But Job was confident that God knew all that he was going through and that when the trial was over he would come forth as gold.

What unspeakable comfort for us today, when we go through fiery trials and the days seem dark and long, to remember that **God knows the way we take.** When the trial is over we will come forth as gold. As the apostle Peter wrote to suffering believers: "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye

rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory." 1 Peter 1:7 & 8

In the last few chapters God speaks to Job and it is then that Job learns all that God was teaching him through this sad and difficult time. "He says, I know that Thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? Therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.—I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: *but now mine eye seeth Thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.*" We learn from this that every trial that God allows us to go through will in the end bring blessing into our lives. Romans 8:28.

What then was the outcome of the Lord's dealings with Job? "The Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before" and "blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning." Job 43:10-17. This only proves to us "that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful."

"Knowing Thy way is always best,

However dark it be, --

Knowing that we, would we be blessed,

Must ever look to Thee;

May we in all things see Thy hand,

And always bless Thy Name,

Submitting to Thy blest command---

Whate'er Thou dost ordain!

We know not what Thou hast in store,--

Joy, sorrow, good, or ill,--

We only pray that we the more

May trust Thy perfect will."

—Russell Carter

In His wonderful love,

John D. McNeil

For address correction or free new name addition, write to:
Leslie L. Winters