

JOB'S SUMMARY DEFENSE AS A PRAYER TO JESUS (Job 29)

Job 29 (NIV)

² “How I long for the months gone by,
for the days when God watched over me,
³ when his lamp shone upon my head
and by his light I walked through darkness!
⁴ Oh, for the days when I was in my prime,
when God’s intimate friendship blessed my house,
⁵ when the Almighty was still with me
and my children were around me,
⁶ when my path was drenched with cream
and the rock poured out for me streams of olive oil.
⁷ “When I went to the gate of the city
and took my seat in the public square,
⁸ the young men saw me and stepped aside
and the old men rose to their feet;
⁹ the chief men refrained from speaking
and covered their mouths with their hands;
¹⁰ the voices of the nobles were hushed,
and their tongues stuck to the roof of their mouths.
¹¹ Whoever heard me spoke well of me,
and those who saw me commended me,
¹² because I rescued the poor who cried for help,
and the fatherless who had none to assist him.
¹³ The man who was dying blessed me;
I made the widow’s heart sing.
¹⁴ I put on righteousness as my clothing;
justice was my robe and my turban.
¹⁵ I was eyes to the blind
and feet to the lame.
¹⁶ I was a father to the needy;
I took up the case of the stranger.
¹⁷ I broke the fangs of the wicked
and snatched the victims from their teeth.
¹⁸ “I thought, ‘I will die in my own house,
my days as numerous as the grains of sand.
¹⁹ My roots will reach to the water,
and the dew will lie all night on my branches.
²⁰ My glory will remain fresh in me,
the bow ever new in my hand.’
²¹ “Men listened to me expectantly,
waiting in silence for my counsel.
²² After I had spoken, they spoke no more;
my words fell gently on their ears.
²³ They waited for me as for showers
and drank in my words as the spring rain.
²⁴ When I smiled at them, they scarcely believed it;
the light of my face was precious to them.
²⁵ I chose the way for them and sat as their chief;
I dwelt as a king among his troops;
I was like one who comforts mourners.”

Job 29 (As a prayer to Jesus)

[2] “Lord Jesus, in the days of old,
when you walked this earth
our Father watched over You,
[3] You were His lamp shining upon the head of Job,
and by Your light we walk through darkness,
[4] Even now,
You are the friendship of God upon our tents,
[5] the Almighty is with You, and all Your children gather
around You; at Your feet and on Your lap.
[6] Your steps are washed with butter,
and the rock pours out streams of oil before You!
[7] You go out to the gate of the city,
and prepare Your seat in the square,
[8] young men see You and withdraw,
the aged rise and stand;
[9] Princes refrain from talking
and lay their hand on their mouth;
[10] the voice of the nobles is hushed,
and their tongue sticks to the roof of their mouth.
[11] When the ear hears, it calls You blessed,
and when the eye sees, it approves,
[12] because You deliver the poor who cry for help,
and the fatherless who have none to help him.
[13] The blessing of him who is about to perish comes
upon You, and You cause the widow’s heart to sing
for joy.
[14] Lord Jesus, You are righteousness; clothing the
sinner. Your justice is like a robe and a turban for the
oppressed.
[15] You are eyes to the blind; You are feet to the lame.
[16] You are a father to the needy,
and You search out the cause of him whom is lost.
[17] You break the fangs of the unrighteous
and make him drop his prey from his teeth.
[18] Because of Your death on Calvary’s cross,
You have seen Your offspring, and the good
pleasure of the Lord prospers in Your hand,
[19] Your roots spread out to the waters,
with the dew all night on Your branches,
[20] Your glory is fresh with You,
and Your bow ever new in Your hand.’
[21] “Jesus, Men listen to You and wait upon You
they keep silence for Your counsel.
[22] After You speak they do not speak again,
and Your word drops upon them.
[23] They wait for Your Spirit as for the rain,
and they open their mouths as for the spring rain.
[24] You smile on them when they have no confidence,
and the light of Your face they do not cast down.
[25] You chose their way and sit as Chief,
You are the King among Your troops,
the One who comforts mourners.