

The Covering Lucifer Lost

Foundation Scripture

Ezekiel 28:14-15 Thou art the anointed cherub that **covereth**; [sakak] and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Definitions

Sakak - to cover, to screen for protection.

Suk - to hedge in, to fence about.

Kaphar - to cover over, the root of atonement.

Kapporeth - the mercy seat, the covering.

Chinnam - for nothing, without cause.

Tummah - integrity, a whole heart.

Yad - hand, power, ownership.

Naga - to touch, to strike.

Sod - intimate counsel between friends.

Introduction

How did the accuser know about the hedge around Job, and why did he ask God to take it away?

Job 1:10 Hast not thou made an hedge [suk] about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Two truths stand in that verse. First, the hedge is God's own work. Second, only God can allow it to be removed, which is why the one who wanted it gone had to ask.

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Exodus 25:20 And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.

Ezekiel 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Isaiah 14:13-14 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

- Before he was the accuser, he was the anointed cherub that covereth, set in his place by God Himself.
- Covering (sakak) was his very work, which is why he knows so much about the hedge (suk).
- Through pride he forfeited his covering, and now he wants coverings removed because he no longer has one of his own.

Application: The same pride that uncovered the cherub can grow in any heart, so we examine ourselves honestly. We watch how we receive correction, how we respond when others are honored, and whether we serve when no one is watching, and we hand every gift back to God as a trust rather than a possession.

What the Corrupt Covering Became

Isaiah 25:7 And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Isaiah 30:1 Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

2 Corinthians 3:16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.

- The coverer became the uncoverer, the accuser of our brethren.
- The holy covering became an evil veil that hides the light of the gospel from the minds of men.
- The covering became a counterfeit, but whenever a heart turns to the Lord, the vail is taken away.

Application: We lay down every false covering, whether it is hiding, blame, or self-made religion, so that we can receive the true covering God gives. When we see the veil over someone we love, we do not try to argue it away. We pray for them, because the vail is taken away when a heart turns to the Lord.

Why He Wants the Hedge Removed

Job 1:9, 11 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Job 2:4-5 And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

- His charge was that Job feared God for nought (chinnam), as though Job's love had a price.
- What he truly wanted was a verdict: he will curse thee to thy face.
- The being who lost his own covering cannot bear to see a covering on anyone else.

Application: When a voice tells us in a hard season that we only serve God for what He gives, we recognize that charge as accusation rather than honesty. We do not answer it by defending our record. We answer it by holding fast to God, because our love for Him is not for sale.

The Saint Is Fully Protected

Job 1:10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Psalms 91:1, 4 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Job 2:3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth

evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

Zechariah 2:5 For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Psalms 125:2 As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

Psalms 34:7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Psalms 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Job 29:2-5 Oh that I were as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me; When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness; As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle; When the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were about me;

- The accuser himself admitted that God made the hedge, and he found no gap in it.
- Job held fast his integrity (tummah), and the trial never reached his heart.
- The hedge was made of God Himself:
 1. The Presence of God (Zechariah 2:5; Psalms 125:2)
 2. The Word of God (Psalms 91:4)
 3. The Host of heaven (Psalms 34:7)
 4. The Favor of God (Psalms 5:12)
 5. The Friendship of God (Job 29:4)

Application: We stop searching our lives for a hole in the wall and start resting in the One who built it. We keep the daily habits of dwelling, which are Scripture, prayer, confession, and fellowship, not to earn the covering, but because that is how we abide under the shadow of the Almighty. We rest in a wall made of God Himself, which is His presence, His word, His angels, His favor, and His friendship.

Only God Can Allow the Hedge to Be Removed

Job 1:12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

Luke 22:31-32 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

John 19:11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

- The accuser had to say, put forth thine hand (yad), because he had no power of his own.
- Satan had to ask for Peter, and no hand reached the Son of God except it were given from above.
- Nothing reached Job that God did not allow.

Application: We pray to God, who holds the enemy on a leash, rather than negotiating with the enemy himself. We ask plainly for mercy in the trial, for a boundary that holds, and for strength to remain under His covering while the storm passes.

The Enemy Must Stay Within God's Boundaries

Job 2:6 *And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.*

Luke 8:32 *And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them.*

Daniel 6:22 *My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.*

- Every time God granted permission, He set the limit in the same sentence.
- The accuser's appetite to strike (naga) had no limit, but his reach stopped exactly where God drew the line.
- From the legion that had to ask to enter the swine to the lions whose mouths God shut, the enemy is dangerous, but he is not free.

Application: We submit ourselves to God first, and then we resist the devil from a covered position, as James 4:7 teaches. We refuse to treat the enemy as a rival on a throne, because he is a creature on a leash, and our Father holds the leash.

A Final Word

The hedge is God's, the removal of the hedge is God's to allow, and the boundary is God's to set. Rest in that.

Revelation 12:11 *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*