

When God Seems Unfair



Welcome to Long Beach Alliance Church

Sunday, May 2, 2021

BOOK OF REVELATION

Sunday Study Canceled

Moved to Wednesdays
7PM-9PM

Contact John Cariveau for location info

714.381.4101

john@calappraise.com



All Church Work Day

May 8 8AM-2PM
Lunch Provided!

See Kyle after service or
Email office@lbac.org to sign-up!



Please join us...

Crafty Women

Saturday, May 15

10AM-4PM - Room 102

Questions? Contact Donna Neel

Text: 562.335.9088 Email: donna@neel.com

LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,803.78	\$17,803.26	139.0%
Month-to-Date:	\$51,215.12	\$45,102.37	88.1%
Year-to-Date:	\$435,328.52	\$435,237.34	100.0%
Disbursed YTD:	\$436,365.02	GF Balance: \$39,566.93	

The Small Business Administration has forgiven \$44,372.03 of the Paycheck Protection Program loan, which has been placed in the Restricted Capital Fund. God is good!

Worship Songs • Sunday, May 2, 2021

CCLI License #255263

Raise a Hallelujah

Verse 1

I raise a hallelujah, in the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah, my weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah, heaven comes to fight for me

Chorus

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes, hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive!

Verse 2

I raise a hallelujah, with everything inside of me
I raise a hallelujah, I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah, in the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah, fear you lost your hold on me!

Chorus

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes, hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive!

Bridge

Sing a little louder (In the presence of my enemies)
Sing a little louder (Louder than the unbelief)
Sing a little louder (My weapon is a melody)
Sing a little louder (Heaven comes to fight for me)...2x
Sing a little louder!

Chorus

I'm gonna sing, in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes, hope will arise
Death is defeated, the King is alive!

Jesus Messiah

Verse 1

He became sin, who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing, love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, name above all names
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing, love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, name above all names
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

Bridge

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You
All the glory to You God, the Light of the world

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, name above all names
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all

Prayer of Confession May 2, 2021

Father, we confess

We often do not live as though You are our first love.

We quickly run after the world's affections

Though they cannot satisfy our hearts true desire.

We prove this by the choices we make everyday.

You've commanded us to love one another but we don't.

You've commissioned us to share Your story

With others all around us, but we don't.

You've called us to care for the widow, the fatherless,

The poor and the immigrant but we fall very short.

Father, fill us with Your Holy Spirit.

Return us to our first love so that the world may see Your beauty

And glory shining in the places we live. Amen.

Reckless Love of God

Verse 1

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me

You have been so, so good to me

Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me

You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the 99

And I couldn't earn it

I don't deserve it, still You give yourself away

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

Verse 2

When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me

You have been so, so good to me

When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me

You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the 99
And I couldn't earn it
I don't deserve it, still You give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

Bridge

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me (3x)

Chorus

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the 99
And I couldn't earn it
I don't deserve it, still You give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

Speak O Lord

Verse 1

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

What Is Going On When God Seems Unfair?

Long Beach Alliance Church • May 2, 2021 • Jack Littlefield

Job 33:8-11 **Job's criticisms**
Job 33:12 **Elihu's response (summary verse)**

- I. God is doing things that you are not aware of, Job 33:13**
God's multitasking: Job 1-2; Job 33:14; 33:26-28; 42:1-6; 42:10
God's inscrutability, Isaiah 55:8-9; Psalm 40:5; 92:5; Deuteronomy 29:29
God's multiple purposes: **BONUS SECTION #4**
- II. God is speaking to you, but you are hard of hearing, Job 33:14**
Jeremiah 17:9; Proverbs 22:15; 14:12; 2 Corinthians 3:14-16; 4:3-4;
Ephesians 4:17-19; Isaiah 59:2; Mark 4:18-19; John 5:40; Romans 5:10; 8:7.

You will either hear His Word now, James 1:19-21; Psalm 119:32, 131;
Or you will hear His Word later, John 5:28-29; Philippians 2:9-11

- III. God speaks to you in a variety of ways**
- A. Through dreams, Job 33:15-16
 - B. Through His Word, the Bible, 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21
 - C. Through pain and sickness, Job 33:19-22
 - D. Through the intervention of a messenger, Job 33:23-27
- BONUS SECTION #5: Job's Search for a Mediator**

- IV. God's purpose is for your good, in spite of your circumstances and in spite of how you feel, Job 33:17-18 (and 24, 27-28, 29-30!); Job 33:25-28**

God's goodness is perfectly revealed in His Son, Jesus Christ,
John 10:10; 3:16; 13:1; 15:13; Romans 5:8; 1 Timothy 2:5-6;
Ephesians 2:4-7; 3:18-19; Jeremiah 31:3; Leviticus 1:4.

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BONUS SECTION #1: You Think You've Got It Bad? **The Details of Job's Sufferings**

Financial Issues

Loss of property, Job 1:14-17
Loss of servants, Job 1:15, 16, 17, 19

Physical Issues

Sore boils from head to foot, 2:7
Worms in his flesh, 7:5a
Skin broken and festering, 7:5b
Skin turning black, 30:30
Kidneys split open, gall poured out, 16:13
Physically wasting away, 19:20
Decaying like a rotten thing, 13:28
Fever, 30:30
Wounds, 9:17; Pain 30:17
Food is disgusting, 3:24a; 6:6-7

Emotional Issues

He regrets being born, 3:3-13; 10:18-19
He despises his life, 9:21; 10:1
He desires death, 6:8-9; 3:20-22
Sleepless, tormented nights, 7:3-4, 14-15
Restless, unending affliction, 30:27-28
Intense weeping, 16:16; 17:7
Broken spirit, 17:1
Soul poured out, 30:16
Bitterness, 10:1
Loss of former security, 29:18-20
Cannot put on a cheerful attitude, 9:27-28

Social Issues

Death of his children, 1:18-19; 29:5
His wife's lack of respect and support, 2:9
His friends frustrate and torment him, 6:14-30; 12:3; 13:1-4, 12; 16:2, 20; 17:2; 19:2-3
He is a joke to his friends, 10:4
Relatives, friends, and servants have abandoned him, 19:13-1
Loss of high status and public respect by all, 29:7-10, 21-23, 25
People mock him, 17:6; 30:1-9
People spit at him, 17:6; 30:10

Spiritual Issues

Feels he has lost friendship with God, 29:4-5, and God's blessing, 29:2, 3, 6
Feels targeted, hemmed in by God: 3:23; 6:4; 7:12, 18-20; 9:18a; 10:14-17; 13:27; 16:12-13; 19:8, 10
Feels directly afflicted by God, 9:17; 16:7-9; 19:8-11; 27:2; 30:21-22
Feels rejected by God, 10:3
Feels God has delivered him to Job's "adversary," and to "ruffians," 16:9-11
Feels God sees him as His enemy, 13:24b; 19:11-12
Feels God is hidden from him, 9:19; 13:24a
Feels God does not answer, 30:20
Feels hopeless, 7:6-7; 14:19-20; 17:15; 19:10
No sense of God's justice or fairness, 9:22-24, 26, 28-29; 10:3-7

BONUS SECTION #2: Seven Reasons Why Pastors Rarely Preach from the Book of Job (especially from the last 40 of the 42 chapters)

1. Chapter 2 is followed by 39 chapters of dialogue, which consists of extended speeches, each 1-6 chapters long, in poetry.
2. There are 29 consecutive chapters (3-31) where Job and his friends argue, pretty much going around in circles. And the answers to the big questions in the book are not presented in this part. Thus many pastors and other readers find this section tedious, and they give up on Job somewhere along the line. I love it; love the trends in each friend's speech, love all the ground Job covers in his varied responses, love the lessons this section has for us today. But I don't think I would ever try to preach through these chapters on a Sunday morning! Maybe some highlights, but I would not attempt to preach systematically through all of them.
3. The poetry presents some difficulties: subtleties, implications, and crucial repetitions that are hard to pick up on.
4. Job does not show consistent faith in God, which can confuse the reader who expects to see some great man of faith. He says great things about God, but he also criticizes God to the point of blasphemy. About the only point Job is consistent on is how blameless Job himself is.
5. Job is not stable. "Job's mind is confused, flexible, and experimental. In every one of his eleven speeches he adopts a different posture, psychologically and theologically" (David Clines). Exactly.
6. The answers to the big questions do not come till chapter 33, and when they do come, they are not stated simply.
7. Some of the most important answers are implied, not stated. This is especially true in the Lord's speeches, chapters 38-41.
NEVERTHELESS, this book is a treasure. The payoff is worth every bit of the demands the book makes.

BONUS SECTION #3: The Elihu Speeches in the Book of Job (Chapters 32-37)

1. Job 32-33: God is speaking and on your side even when you think He is not
2. Job 34: God's righteousness and fairness are proven in many ways
3. Job 35: God is above your sin, insincerity, and criticism
4. Job 36-37: God is absolutely fair to every person
 - as proven by His purpose in correction, 36
 - as proven by His purpose in creation, 37

BONUS SECTION #4: Multitasking: God's Multiple Purposes In How He Dealt with Job

1. God's purpose in showing something to Satan
2. God's purpose in bringing J into a deeper understanding of God
3. God's purpose in bringing Job into a deeper understanding of Job Himself
4. God's purpose in bringing Job's three friends into a deeper understanding of His ways
5. God's purpose in bringing all of us, who read the book, to a deeper understanding of God
6. God's purpose in blessing Job more than ever, Job 42.
7. God's purpose in dealing with a whole world: all people, and animals, and plants, and stars, and a whole creation: purposes that we do not know!

BONUS SECTION #5: Job's Search for a Mediator

Job 9:30-35: Job would like to go to court with the Almighty, but he needs **"AN ARBITER"** (9:33; ESV, NET) to go with him, "who may lay his hand upon us both"; the word is also translated "mediator" (NKJV, NIV), and "umpire" (NAS). The word "daysman" in the KJV refers to the person who arranges a day for a legal action.

Job 16:19-21: Job wants someone "to plead" for him "with God" (16:21), and is confident that he has a **"WITNESS"** for him in heaven (16:19a), one who is also his **"ADVOCATE"** (16:19b; NAS, NIV, NET), or "he who testifies" (ESV) on behalf of Job.

Job 17:3: Job seeks someone "who will be a **PLEDGE**" for him with the Almighty (verse 3a; ESV, NIV, NAS, NET; "surety" KJV), who will also serve as **"ONE WHO PUTS UP SECURITY"** (verse 3b; ESV, NIV, NET), "a guarantor" (NAS); literally "one who shakes hands with me" (NKJV; NET footnote).

Job 19:23-27: Job expresses confidence that he has a **"REDEEMER"** (ESV, NAS, NET, KJV, NIV), using a word which in the Old Testament describes a relative who buys a kinsman out of slavery, who buys back property to keep it in the family, who marries a widow to provide an heir for a relative, or who avenges the death of a murdered relative. In this passage, the "redeemer" is instrumental in making sure Job's testimony endures on earth (19:23-24) and that Job is able to see God (19:25-27).

Job 23:3-7: Job longs to present his case to God and says in verse 7 that **"THE UPRIGHT"** (NAS, NIV; "an upright man" ESV; "an upright person" NET) will present it for him and in this way deliver him.

Job 33:23-28: This time Elihu speaks on the subject of a special helper for Job and for believers who suffer because they resist God's message. Elihu refers to **"A MESSENGER"** (NET footnote; "a divine messenger" NABRE; elsewhere translated "an angel" (ESV, KJV, NAS, NET, NIV), who is also called **"A MEDIATOR"** (ESV, NAS, NET; "interpreter" KJV). The messenger/mediator asks God to deliver the sufferer because he has "found a ransom" (33:24). He explains to the sufferer what constitutes God's "uprightness" (33:23, NET). The messenger's intervention results in a transformation for the sufferer (33:24-28).

Other verses on Job's need for communication and connection with God: 6:13; 9:2-3, 14-16, 19; 10:2; 13:3, 15, 18, 22; 31:35-37

Jesus as your advocate: 1 John 2:1-2

Jesus as your mediator: 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 8:6; 9:15

Jesus as your ransom: 1 Timothy 2:6; Mark 10:45

Jesus as your intercessor: Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34

Jesus as your redeemer: Ephesians 1:7; Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Hebrews 9:15; Rev 5:9

You can contact Jack by email at littlefieldjack@yahoo.com, and you can find him on Facebook as well.

PURPOSE: To demonstrate
the Lord's WISDOM
in His dealings with man

in His dealings with mankind

II. THE CONTROVERSY

1st CYCLE OF SPEECHES

2ND CYCLE OF SPEECHES
3RD CYCLE OF SPEECHES

JOB'S OPENING SPEECH (3)
ELIPHAZ SPEAKS (4-6);
JOB REPLIES (6-7)
BILDAD SPEAKS (8);
JOB REPLIES (9-10)
ZOPHAR SPEAKS (11)
JOB REPLIES (12-14)

EUPHAZ SPEAKS (15);
JOB REPLIES (16-17)
BILDAD SPEAKS (18);
JOB REPLIES (19)
ZOPHAR SPEAKS (20);
JOB REPLIES (21)

"ELIPHAZ SPEAKS (22);
JOB REPLIES (23-24)
BILDAF SPEAKS (25);
JOB REPLIES (26-28)
JOB'S CONCLUDING
SPEECH (29-31)

IV. THE LORD'S SPEECH

V. THE EPILOGUE

I. THE PROLOGUE	
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3	JOB'S OPENING SPEECH (3)
4-5	ELIPHAZ SPEAKS (4-5); JOB REPLIES (6-7)
6-7	BILDAD SPEAKS (8); JOB REPLIES (9-10)
8-9	ZOPHAR SPEAKS (11) JOB REPLIES (12-14)
10-11	
12	ELIPHAZ SPEAKS (15); JOB REPLIES (16-17)
13	BILDAD SPEAKS (18); JOB REPLIES (19)
14	ZOPHAR SPEAKS (20); JOB REPLIES (21)
15	
16	ELIPHAZ SPEAKS (22); JOB REPLIES (23-24)
17	BILDAD SPEAKS (25); JOB REPLIES (26-28)
18	JOB'S CONCLUDING SPEECH (29-31)
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Communion

*this is my body which is for you.
do this in remembrance of me.*

*this cup is the new
covenant in my blood.*

*do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.*



Counting on Your Name

Verse 1

My name is written on Your hands
You've called me Your own, You've called me Your own
Now I am Yours no earthly power
Could tear us apart, tear us apart

Chorus

I'm counting on Your name, I'm counting on You name
Counting on Your name to save me
I'm trusting You're the way, I'm trusting You're the way
Trusting You're the way, my Savior

Verse 2

My life is built on nothing less
Than Your faithfulness, Your faithfulness
Counting on Christ and Christ alone
I'm hoping in You, hoping in You... (To Chorus)

Bridge

I Believe, I Believe
I Believe, You are the way (3x)

Chorus

I'm counting on Your name, I'm counting on You name
Counting on Your name to save me
I'm trusting You're the way, I'm trusting You're the way
Trusting You're the way, my Savior

AT LONG BEACH ALLIANCE

WE ARE FAMILY

AND NOW WE HAVE THE SHIRTS TO PROVE IT!!



SHIRT SALES END TOMORROW, MAY 3!

AS AN ADDED BONUS, YOU ALSO HAVE THE OPTION TO BUY A SHIRT THAT WILL HELP SEND THE LBAC YOUTH TO HUME LAKE, SUMMER CAMP THIS YEAR!

WWW.LBAC.ORG/SHIRT

VISIT THIS LINK TO ORDER YOUR SHIRT TODAY!

BOOK & TOY DRIVE

Sponsored by the City of Long Beach in partnership with the Long Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau

**HELP BRING JOY TO MIGRANT CHILDREN
SHELTERED AT THE LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER!**

COLLECTION THROUGH MAY 6
drop off in box at church office



For questions:
Contact Kristin Cragg
949.609.9232

**Seeking donations for new
toys and children's books
(in English and/or Spanish)
for grade levels
kindergarten-young adult**



Homelessness, Poverty,
Incarceration, Drugs,
Corruption, & Violence

Fatherlessness

Overburdened
Foster System

Broken Families

Neglect & Abuse

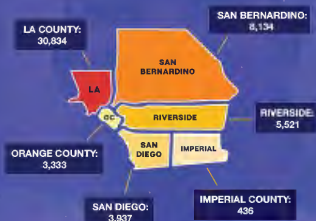
THE
PROBLEM
CYCLE

The Solution

Most think "the government has it handled". But in reality the system has been created around the core ideal that good families will step up to care for these children. Right now, there are simply not enough good families to support the system. The problem ends when good families step up and say, "yes to love."

LoveHasNoLimits.com/FAMILY

Foster Care in SoCal



LA County alone has more children in foster care than, not just any other county, but any other entire state in the United States of America. Many are 'stuck' in the system with little hope to find a family.

LoveHasNoLimits.com/FAMILY

Let's change foster care
across Southern California!

3 WAYS YOU CAN HELP NOW!

① Share

② Care

③ Foster
& Adopt

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

LoveHasNoLimits.com/FAMILY



ARE YOU READY FOR IT?

YES! *We're*
RE-OPENING

SUNDAY, MAY 9 (MOTHER'S DAY)
10:30AM

SEE YOU INSIDE!



LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

Sunday, May 2

Communion Sunday

- 10:30AM INDOOR & Livestream
Worship & Celebration!
10:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry

Monday, May 3

- 7:00PM Pure Desire Meeting
7:00PM SIA In-Person & Zoom Mtg

Tuesday, May 4

- 7:00PM HS Youth Group

Wednesday, May 5

- 7:00PM Book of Revelation Study (offsite)

Thursday, May 6

- 7:00PM JH Youth Group

Friday, May 7

- 8:00PM NA In-Person & Zoom Mtg.

Saturday, May 8

- 8:00AM Work Day

Sunday, May 9

- 9:30AM Gospel Project on Zoom
10:30AM INDOOR & Livestream
Worship & Celebration!
10:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry

MISSIONS

[Link to LBAC Missions!](#)

GROWTH GROUPS

[Link to LBAC Growth Groups!](#)
Mid-week Adult Bible Studies

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Children's Ministries!](#)

Sunday Mornings:

Gospel Project @ 10:30AM
Fun-N-Funky @ 11:15AM (on hold)

AWANA

[Link to LBAC AWANA](#)

Wednesday Nights September-May (on hold)

YOUTH MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Youth Ministries!](#)

[Link to LBAC Youth Instagram Page](#)

Every Tuesday & Thursday Night @ 7:00PM

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Women's Ministry!](#)

Women's Ministry Event Information

Contact: office@lbac.org

Lydia House Meals Ministry

3rd Thursday each month

Women Connecting with Missions

3rd Tuesday each month @ 7:00PM (on hold)

Crafty Women

2nd Saturday each month @ 10:00AM (on hold)

MEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Men's Ministry!](#)

Contact: mensministry@lbac.org

long beach alliance church offices

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THE
ALLIANCE