

## **Job – Part 6**

Job 9-11; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; October 9, 2016  
Commentaries on Job referenced: Hywel Jones and Steven Lawson

### **The Point**

We need endurance in trusting God even when things are inexplicably difficult. (James 5:7-11)

### **Job's 1<sup>st</sup> Right Response (Ch 1)**

*He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD." – Job 1:21*

Job worships God in the midst of his grief of losing his children and servants and possessions.

### **Job's 2<sup>nd</sup> Right Response (Ch 2)**

*But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. – Job 2:10*

Job refuses the counsel of his wife to curse God in the midst of the painful loss of his health.

### **Job's 1<sup>st</sup> Complaint (Ch 3)**

*Afterward Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. – Job 3:1*

Argument: A life of suffering is not worth living and God is wrong to give life to the suffering.

### **Eliphaz's 1<sup>st</sup> Response (Chs 4-5)**

*"According to what I have seen, those who plow iniquity and those who sow trouble harvest it. – Job 4:8*

Argument: A life of suffering is not God's fault but the result of reaping what you sow.

### **Job's 2<sup>nd</sup> Complaint (Chs 6-7)**

*"Have I sinned? What have I done to You, O watcher of men? Why have You set me as Your target, So that I am a burden to myself? – Job 7:20*

Argument: God is not giving me what I deserve, but what I don't deserve.

### **Bildad's 1<sup>st</sup> Response (Ch 8)**

*"Does God pervert justice? Or does the Almighty pervert what is right? – Job 8:3*

Argument: God gives us what we deserve in this life, even it is delayed.

## Theodicies

The book of Job is the closest thing in the Bible to what is called a ‘theodicy’:

*‘Defense of God’s goodness and omnipotence in view of the existence of evil.’* – Webster’s dictionary

Some attempts at a theodicy or repudiations of it:

- The *Medical* View: Suffering is necessary for healing.
- The *Evolutionary* View: Suffering is necessary for progress.
- The *Freedom* View: The possibility of moral evil is necessary for the possibility of moral good.
- The *Moral Authority or Justice* View: The existence of a standard of justice requires the existence of God, which also makes possible an ultimate just resolution.
- The *Evil Monster* View: the existence of unexplained and unwarranted evil is evidence that any God that exists must necessarily be an evil monster.

## Job’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Complaint (Job 9-10)

<sup>3</sup> *“If one wished to dispute with Him, He could not answer Him once in a thousand times.* <sup>4</sup> *“Wise in heart and mighty in strength, Who has defied Him without harm? – Job 9:3-4*

Argument: We have no recourse when mistreated by God because ‘might makes right’ and his power allows him to do what he wants and no one can hold him accountable.

## Zophar’s 1<sup>st</sup> Response (Job 11)

<sup>5</sup> *“But would that God might speak, And open His lips against you,* <sup>6</sup> *And show you the secrets of wisdom! For sound wisdom has two sides. Know then that God forgets a part of your iniquity. – Job 11:5-6*

Argument: God has the right to do what he wants even if you can’t understand it. God knows your sin better than you do and you can be sure that you are getting better than you deserve.

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Truth for Endurance: Faith says that God loves me and is for me and for my happiness in him, fully and forever, because of what God’s Word says, even though my circumstances and onlookers seem to shout otherwise. (Romans 8:28-39)