



“The Worship in the Subpoena”

Job 8:1-14:22 – October 10, 2020

Questions for Application and Fellowship

MY STORY

1. Has there ever been a time when you thought God was being unfair? Maybe a time when you wanted to demand answers from God? What happened?

QUICK REVIEW

The book of Job tells the story of the suffering of a godly man. Unbeknownst to Job (and his friends), God held him forth in heaven as a man exemplary of genuine faith. In Job 1-2, we are given a “behind the scenes” perspective on the life of Job and the severe trials he underwent. These foundational chapters make clear that he was a blameless man. God was not punishing sin in his life.

Moving into chapters 4-14, the first round of dialogue between Job and his friends occurs. Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar speak, and they continue to terribly misapply the theology of divine retribution to Job, a godly man. Job continues in vexation with words that mingle reverence and the desire to have a day in court with God.

In this section, Job wrestles with the age old question how suffering is compatible with the power and love of God. And he considers three strategies for moving forward with his life.

Read Job 9:16-35

Three possible strategies for moving forward:

1. The way of _____ (Job 9:27-29)
2. The way of _____ (Job 9:30-32)
3. The way of _____ (Job 9:33-35)

Was any point in this weekend’s message particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This weekend's message raised the question of the "theodicy." This is the problem of evil in God's world. In view of the unbearable pain and wickedness that exists in this world, how can God be both good and almighty if he allows or ordains it? In this passage (9:22-24), what was the direction of Job's thinking? Have you ever felt the same way?
2. How might these passages help us as we consider this question of why a good God allows and even ordains severe pain in the lives of His people?

Romans 8:26-30

Romans 11:33-36

3. Job longed for a mediator that could help resolve his conflict with God. Who is that mediator? What do these passages reveal? What encouragement do they bring to you in your ongoing struggle with sin?

Hebrews 4:14-16

I John 1:8-2:2

4. In Job 9:27-29, Job considered the possibility of just adopting a positive mindset in the midst of his bitterness. Why is this unwise as a strategy? Have you ever tried to bottle up resentment or whitewash bitterness? What happened?
5. How is authentic joy in the Lord different from just putting on a positive attitude? How is joy produced? See John 15:9-11.