

Job – Part 8

Job 12-15; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; October 30, 2016

The Point

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

We need to believe in the love of God, because of Christ's suffering, in the midst of our suffering, even when it is inexplicable.

Tim Keller interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkn5lfutSrY>

Job's 1st Right Response (Ch 1)

Job worships God in the midst of his grief of losing his children and servants and possessions. (1:21)

Job's 2nd Right Response (Ch 2)

Job refuses the counsel of his wife to curse God in the midst of the painful loss of his health. (2:10)

Job's 1st Complaint (Ch 3)

Argument: A life of suffering is not worth living and God is wrong to give life to the suffering. (3:1)

Eliphaz's 1st Response (Chs 4-5)

Argument: A life of suffering is not God's fault but the result of reaping what you sow. (4:8)

Job's 2nd Complaint (Chs 6-7)

Argument: God is not giving me what I deserve, but what I don't deserve. (7:20)

Bildad's 1st Response (Ch 8)

Argument: God gives us what we deserve in this life, even it is delayed. (8:3)

Job's 3rd Complaint (Job 9-10)

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. (9:3-4)

Zophar's 1st Response (Job 11)

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 are getting better than you deserve. (11:5-6)

Job's 4th Complaint (Job 12-14)

Argument: God is in the business of surprising reversals so your assumption that one who suffers must have sinned is not always true, so shut up and stop defending God with lies! (13:4-12)

Eliphaz's 2nd Response (Job 15)

Argument: We are older than you are and wisdom comes with age, so shut up and listen! (15:7-13)

Job's 5th Complaint (Job 16-17)

The friends of Job were not painting the picture that Job could trust that God's smiling face was behind His frowning providence which is what true comfort is all about.

Argument: God is attacking me for no good reason and your words are an attack as well. (Job 16:13-20)

- You are doing a lousy job of comforting from your place! (16:1-5)
- God is my adversary! (16:6-16)
- But I have done nothing to provoke God to become my enemy! (16:17-22)
- God has kept people from seeing the truth about me! (17:1-7)
- But maybe you will eventually see the truth about me and maybe not! (17:8-16)

Bildad's 2nd Response (Job 18)

Bildad was impatient with Job and painted a bleak, hopeless picture for Job.

Argument: In spite of what you say, your experience reveals your wickedness and affirms the reality that you do not know God! (18:21)

- Why should we think that you are an exception to the rule?! (18:1-4)
- Look at the evidence that you are obviously wicked! (18:5-19)
- You say you know God but it is clear that you do not! (18:20-21)