

“Learning the Lesson Job Learned” ♦ Rev. John M. Fraiser
Job 38:4-18 ♦ August 7, 2011

- I. *God possesses the skill to govern our lives and the affairs of this world. We do not.*
 - A. This is true even if we should lose the blessings we enjoy in this world.
 - B. God has reasons to which we simply do not have access.
- II. *To properly question God’s actions, we must be in a position of authority over him.*
 - A. We lack the credentials. “Where were you when...?”
 - B. There is a difference between an inquisitive question and an accusing question.

When tragedy strikes in our lives we may wonder “Why?”, but we may not demand of God that he answer us. God does not owe us explanations.
- III. *We cannot explain God’s wisdom. At best we are witnesses to it.*
 - A. Job could not explain it.
 - B. God exposed Job’s ignorance.
- IV. *There is something wholly defective about a sinful creature of very limited wisdom and power questioning the holy Creator with all wisdom and all power.*
 - A. We do not have our own wisdom and power. As creatures, we are dependent on the Creator.

Note: we don’t even have the ability to question God unless he gives it to us.
 - B. Our sin is the reason that we find fault with God. If we were without sin, we would gladly trust in the wisdom, goodness, and power of God even when we did not understand it.
- V. *The proper response is silent submission and repentance for our accusations against God.*

“Then Job answered the LORD and said: ‘Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but I will proceed no further’” (Job 40:3-5).

“Then Job answered the LORD and said: ‘I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. “Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?” Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. “Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.” I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.’”