

Studies in Job – Part 8: “Job Desires a Mediator”

Job 9:25-35

Exposition: *Echoes of the gospel seen in Job’s wrestling.*

1. The Context (review)

- (1) Job cannot make any sense of his suffering
- (2) He feels that God has abandoned him – worse, that God is against him!
- (3) His friends continue to allege that he must be in sin, else these things would not have come upon him.

2. Job’s Complaint – further expression of his deep despair

(1) Its detail

- His life is quickly passing away (25-26)
- There is no sweetness or joy left in his life; his suffering is unceasing (27-28)
- He is framed as a wicked man, and what can he do about it? (29-31)

God has purposed that he should be thus framed and thus understood.
“Even if I prove myself innocent, He will make me appear wrong.”

(2) Summarized

- “God is stronger than me.” (He is frustrated by the immensity of God)
- “I have no point of appeal to Him: He is infinite, majestic, and holy;
I am small, despised, and a sinner.”

3. Job’s Longing – amidst his complaint vv. 32-33

(1) An Imperfect Expression

- 1- It is “tainted” with sin, – he speaks out of his frustration!
- 2- He does not speak out of a full understanding when he speaks of a “mediator”
 - not a mediator to forgive him of his sins that he might be received by God.
 - rather, a mediator who could prove that he was innocent!
- 3- He is unaware that he touches on the mystery through which God would ultimately provide for man a righteous standing with Himself.

(2) The Basic Elements of this longing

-1- “mediator” = someone to arbitrate, one who argues a case

-2- “who may lay his hand on us both”

- one who is able to bring both parties together
- one who understands both parties
- one who faithfully represents the interests of each party

(3) The Ultimate Fulfillment of this longing: our Lord Jesus Christ

- He faithfully represents (and secures!) the interests of both God and man.

He represents God’s interests in satisfying His just wrath against sin;
He represents our interests in bearing that wrath in our stead;
He represents God’s interests in fulfilling His love for us and thus rescuing us from our sin and bringing us to God!

- He intercedes for us; He “argues our case” when the enemy would accuse us.

Rom. 8:31ff

- He truly brings both parties together – in perfect union. No separation remains

Gal. 3:20

- He knows and understands perfectly both parties:

He is the living Word, who is God and who exhaustively knows God.
He is true man, one who is able to sympathize with us in our weaknesses.

Heb. 2:17-18; Heb. 4:14-16

Some further Application:

1.

2.