

The Book of Job #9 (Chapter 8- Bildad Speaks)

I. First, Notice Some General Things About Bildad's Speech

- A. Bildad begins in verse 2 with sarcasm (Compare 12:2)
 - 1. Compares the words of Job to a mighty wind – different ideas on this
 - a. Perhaps saying his words have no weight, but do great damage
 - 1. Power of the tongue – James 3:5, 6
 - a. God showed this on Day of Pentecost – Acts 2:2-4
 - 1. See combination of wind and tongues – Power of gospel
 - b. Foolishness of preaching (I Cor.1:18) with power(Rom. 1:16)
 - 2. Asks Job how long he is to go on speaking (Like Titus 1:10, 11)
 - a. Any time that is spent in sin is too much time
- B. Like Eliphaz, Bildad has a lot of knowledge, but not much wisdom
 - 1. Verse 3 is correct about God- but not correct in this situation
 - 2. Verse 4 is saying Job's children committed some great transgression
 - a. Evidence seemed to show to us that Job's children were godly
 - b. The accusation against Job's children same as against Job
 - 1. We know accusations against Job weren't true either
 - 3. Literalness of verse 4 – God has delivered them into hands of sins
 - a. Can do it by allowing us to continue –Rom. 1:24, 26; Ps. 81:11, 12
 - b. Can do it by giving us up to evils sin deserve – Isaiah 64:6, 7

II. Bildad's Speech Does Teach Some Important Truths About Prayer

- A. Verse 5 is same advice Eliphaz gives in 5:8- Good advice – seek God
- B. Teaches it is good for us to begin prayer by appealing to God's attributes
 - 1. Verse 3 is appeal to God's power (El, Shaddai) and righteousness
 - 2. Genesis 18:24, 25 – Abraham begins intercession appealing to that
 - a. Different than our courts of law – where we aren't sure of justice
 - b. God is just and He loves justice – Rev. 15:3; Psalm 37:28
 - 3. God's righteousness is never limited by lack of power
 - a. God not powerless to intervene righteously- not open to bribes
 - 4. Verse 3- God can never pervert justice- does not act out of passion
 - a. Hosea 11:9; Hebrews 1:9
- C. In verse 5 – Bildad teaches us that we should seek God early
 - 1. Hebrew "Shaw-khar" – Literally "If you would morning God"
 - a. Psalm 63:1; Psalm 5:3; Psalm 59:16; Psalm 88:13; Mark 1:35
 - 2. Idea is that we give God firstfruits – of our week, our tithe, our day
- D. Verse 5- "Make Supplication" – Word in Hebrew means favor or mercy
 - 1. Always come to God on basis of grace – Luke 18:10 –14
 - a. Luke 1:13- Name "John" comes from this Hebrew word
 - 2. He is encouraging Job to come before God and confess sins
 - a. V. 3 – "Sinned against Him" – All sins against God- Psalm 51:4
 - b. Saying Job may not end up with same punishment as children
 - 1. All sins are great – but some sins are greater than others
 - 2. Same sins in this life not punished the same (Ananias/Sapphira)
- E. V. 6- "Pure and Upright" - Not come with unconfessed sin-Ps. 66:18
- F. Result of Job doing all of this (V. 6) – God will awake for him
 - 1. God never sleeps (Ps. 121:4) – but appears to us to do (Ps. 44:22, 23)