

Faith In The Storm part 20

Job 25:1-26:14

The Title Of The Message: “The Debate”

The Key Word: Understanding

The Thought: Unless we have a good understanding of God, we will never be an effective minister of the gospel.

The Breakdown:

Verses 25:1-6 Bildad’s Theology

Verses 26:1-4 Worthless Theology

Verses 5-14 Job’s Understanding

Verses 25:1-6 Bildad’s Theology

Job 25:1-3 NKJV - Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said: 2 NKJV - "Dominion and fear belong to Him; He makes peace in His high places. 3 NKJV - Is there any number to His armies? Upon whom does His light not rise?

Then Bildad... Chapter 25 is one of the shortest chapters in the book of Job, but all Bildad can do is offer the same old stuff that’s been said before, earlier Job showed his confidence in God knowing that God would hear him if only he could find him, he also complained about those who knew God, were still doing ungodly things and yet were not dealt with, he also complained about those who were unbelievers and seemed to be blessed even though they were doing wicked things, but he has a change of heart realizing that his problem was that he wanted these

people to be dealt with now! And that God would deal with them in his own good timing.

Dominion and fear belong to Him... What Bildad says is right so far in that dominion and fear belong to the Lord and that He makes peace in His high places, His armies are uncountable and His light rises on all people, all of these things are true. God truly is a great God, Bildad, Zophar and Eliphaz believe that Job has somehow lost perspective on this fact and they want him to know that God is not only great but He is unbeatable and if you make Him an enemy, you can never win against Him, but that's the problem they believe that Job is making God his enemy by not confessing his secret sin, that is so obvious to them, because of the things he is suffering, this by the way will be the last speech we hear from these three friends, its almost as if they have given up and that's why Bildad keeps it short and simply goes back to what he, Zophar and Eliphaz already agree on and made up their minds with. What a sad commentary on people who are supposed to be your friends, those who acted like they had respect for you at one time, turn and accuse you of false things, are convinced of those things and then just give up on you because you won't agree with them!

Job 25:4-6 NKJV - How then can man be righteous before God? Or how can he be pure who is born of a woman? 5 NKJV - If even the moon does not shine, And the stars are not pure in His sight, 6 NKJV - How much less man, who is a maggot, And a son of man, who is a worm?"

How then can man be... This is finally the right question, How can a man be righteous before God? But he should have stopped there and waited for an answer, maybe he would have been told about Abraham faith that made him righteous before God.

Galatians 3:5–6 (NKJV) 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 6 just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Romans 4:16–22 (NKJV) 16 Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all 17 (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.” 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

Or how can he be pure... Instead of waiting for an answer he just goes on to the next question, how can a man be pure who is born of a woman? The idea here is how can a man be pure who is born in weakness, we have this same idea when husbands are called to love and understand their wives because they are the weaker vessel.

1 Peter 3:7 (NKJV) Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

If even the moon does not shine... So notice now in verses 5 & 6 the theology that they have of mankind, this has shaped their biblical view of man notice what he says... If even the moon does not shine, And the stars are not pure in His sight, first he points out in his belief that not even the moon or the stars are pure in God’s sight and then says, How much less man, who is a maggot, And a son of man, who is a worm?” Those who have the doctrine or theology of the total depravity of man believe that man is so corrupt that he is incapable of choosing to believe

in God, I agree with the scripture that says that there is none righteous no not one but I also believe that the love of God can draw men into a place where they can choose to believe and have that counted as faith making people righteous before God.

Romans 3:10 (NKJV) As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one;

Hebrews 7:25 (NKJV)

25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Verses 26:1-4 Worthless Theology

Job 26:1-2 NKJV - But Job answered and said: 2 NKJV - "How have you helped him who is without power? How have you saved the arm that has no strength?

But Job answered... Job basically rebukes all three of his friends for how they have treated him and with good reason, so he says sarcastically how have you helped the weak? And how have you saved them? If this is how you minister what good is it doing how are you helping? It's a legitimate question because of how they have ministered to him. We should remember that in their ministering they left no room for grace or mercy, instead of giving Job the benefit of the doubt they pronounced him guilty without any proof, instead of bringing comfort they brought cruelty, instead of listening they they had already made up their minds.

James 4:12 (NKJV) There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

Job 26:3-4 NKJV - How have you counseled one who has no wisdom? And how have you declared sound advice to many? 4 NKJV - To whom have you uttered words? And whose spirit came from you?

How have you counseled... Job continues and ask how have you counseled one who has no wisdom? And have declared sound advice to many? Basically what Job is asking how can someone with no wisdom give others wisdom and advice, in verse 4 we have another smack and says to whom have you uttered words and whose spirit came from you? In other words who else have you been giving your great advice to and whose spirit did it come from because it could be God's!

Basically Job is pointing out that their theology is worthless because they have no wisdom or discernment in how they are applying their great knowledge, it shows that you can have a lot of knowledge and absolutely no wisdom in applying it! All worthless theology does is try to make you feel guilty for things that are not true, it tries to make you doubt what you know, rather than revealing the truth it accuses you falsely.

Verses 5-14 Job's Understanding

Job 26:5-6 NKJV - "The dead tremble, Those under the waters and those inhabiting them. 6 NKJV - Sheol is naked before Him, And Destruction has no covering.

The dead tremble... Job on the other hand has a great understanding of the Lord, notice that he points out that nothing is hidden from the Lord, He makes the dead tremble, Those under the waters and those inhabiting them, Sheol is naked is naked before Him, And Destruction has no covering. God sees all things even into those dark things like the watery depths, like hell and destruction.

Job 26:7-9 NKJV - He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing. 8 NKJV - He binds up the water in His thick

clouds, Yet the clouds are not broken under it. 9 NKJV - He covers the face of His throne, And spreads His cloud over it.

He stretches out... This is pretty amazing when you think about this because many believe that this book is about four thousand years old! And Job is speaking about things that science had even agreed on until a couple of hundred years ago.

Job 26:10-13 NKJV - He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, At the boundary of light and darkness. 11 NKJV - The pillars of heaven tremble, And are astonished at His rebuke. 12 NKJV - He stirs up the sea with His power, And by His understanding He breaks up the storm. 13 NKJV - By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent.

He drew a circular horizon... Again notice Job understands that God made the world round, how God set up light and darkness to work, that He makes the earthquake and makes it stop, he stirs up and stops the sea with his power, He breaks up the storms. I'm not here to down science but more to reveal the truth of it science is great in the past it has been at the center of great discoveries, what used to be the place of being able to ask questions and follow up on theory to see if its right has been politicized, and turned into a religion, if anyone dares to mention God in it then all the world falls apart, if you dare to say that science has got it wrong then you are obviously an uneducated fool, a simpleton who believes in a non existent God. Yet here we see that if those scientist would have believed the Bible they would have discovered the stars of the heavens in places that seemed like there were none, they would have known that the earth wasn't held by a giant turtle or by Atlas, they would have known all about rain clouds, they wouldn't have had to sail the seas to see if the world was round! They would know now that God is the One who is in control, He stops the earth quakes, the storms and the turbulent seas, He makes the heavens look so amazing!

Job 26:14 NKJV - Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?"

Indeed these are the mere edges... Notice that Job says this is just a glimpse, we haven't begun to go into the depths, he says we are so far on the mere edges away from God that we can barely hear Him, yet the thunder of His power who can understand?

Application:

1. What does your theology do? Does it lift others up causing them to see the Lord does it lift up the hurting, does it cause others to repent of sin? Or does it crush the innocent and those looking for refuge in the Lord