







“I love Osama Bin Laden (Matt. 5:44)”

Intercession

The Kingdom of God is both
Now and Not Yet

The pain of the world

The Shalom of God

The pain of the world

[Standing in the Gap in Intercession]

The Shalom of God

After the Lord had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, for you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.

Job 42:7, CSB

Now take seven bulls and seven rams, go to my servant Job, and offer a burnt offering for yourselves. Then my servant Job will pray for you. I will surely accept his prayer and not deal with you as your folly deserves. For you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.”

Job 42:8, CSB

Then Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the Lord had told them, and the Lord accepted Job's prayer.

Job 42:9, CSB

I will surely accept his prayer and not deal with you as your folly deserves.

The sacrifice of seven bulls and seven rams

The intercession of Job for them not to be
dealt with as their folly deserves

While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” He knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” And after saying this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:59-60, CSB

“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

“Lord, do not hold this sin against them.”

When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided his clothes and cast lots.

Luke 23:33–34, CSB

⁴⁶ And Jesus called out with a loud voice,
“Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit.”,
Saying this, he breathed his last.

Luke 23:46, CSB

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...

Matthew 5:44, CSB

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Hebrews 10:4, CSB

Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us.

Romans 8:34, CSB

Discussion Questions

What stood out in the stories of Job, Stephen, and Jesus?

What was the experience of praying for an enemy like (particularly after receiving the Lord's Supper)?

How can interceding for your enemies be a regular practice? What do you think would happen in your soul if this were to be habitual?