

Job 11-14 –4 May 2023

“My Head Is Swimming”

Introduction

- *Book of Job opens w/ heavenly scene in which Satan asks permission to bring calamity into Job’s life
- *Friends comes & have good intentions but their counsel goes off-track b/c of partial or misapplied info
- *Chap 3-7 – saw Eliphaz’s 1st speech & Job response
- *Chap 8-10 – saw Bildad’s 1st speech & Job response
- *Now in 11-14, it’s Zophar’s 1st speech & Job’s response
- *Will it be any different for this 3rd friend?
- *What’s worse than losing your finances & family?
 - *Having the ones that remain misunderstand you
 - *Job’s head must be swimming in confusion
- *We long for relationship w/ someone that understands us!

Today we’ll see 3 ways to prevent your head from swimming in times of misunderstanding

1st way to prevent your head from swimming is don't stew on false accusations (Job 11)

Read Chap 11:1-4 – *Zophar's 1st Speech*

1. So here Zophar is even blunter than Bildad, in calling Job a flat-out liar
2. *Job is accused of justifying himself*
 - a. Not true – Job admits he isn't sin-free but has nothing to repent of

Read Vs 5-6

1. He speaks w/ such surety that if God were here, He would say you're getting less than you deserve
 - a. Implication is ...less than you deserve for your current unrepentance sin
2. Though true in a universal way, this isn't applicable to Job current calamity, illness & depression
3. In confession of sin, it's good to say the end of vs 6 (as in Ezra 9:13), but not in accusing someone else!

Read Vs 7-12

1. *So Zophar now teaches Job the transcendence and sovereignty of God Almighty*
2. From vs 12, men have no greater chance to be wise than to be born of a donkey!
3. After telling Job he deserves even more punishment, now he tells him that God is so wise that Job shouldn't even question Him
 - a. Yet we're told in (Read) James 1:5 that if we lack wisdom, we should ask & receive it

Read 13-20

1. Job you just need to turn to the Lord & repent
2. He said that good will come to those that repent but in vs 20 the wicked (that don't repent) shall be judged
3. So Zophar gives the SAME false accusation that his other two friends did
4. How would Joseph's life have turned out had he stewed on Potipher's wife's false accusations against him while in prison? (Read I Pet 3:15-18)

2nd way to prevent your head from swimming is don't seethe feelings of animosity (Job 12:1-13:19)

Read Chap 12:1-3 – *Job's Response to Zophar*

1. *Oh you guys are soooooo smart*
2. His bitterness is coming from them assuming they know his situation
 - a. Job sees this as presumptuous and prideful

Read Vs 4-6

1. You guys are mocking a righteous man!
2. Job has a legit reason to be moved
3. But be careful not to add fuel to the “hate fire”
 - a. Read Prov 19:11 & Prov 13:10

Read Vs 7-12

1. Job declares he knows some things about God
2. In fact, he challenges THEM to go learn a few things from creation and older wiser men
3. Like vs 11, there is no appeal once the palate of the mouth makes a judgement, it is right
 - a. *Job says, so it is w/ God, He is just & wise*

Read Vs 13-25

1. Expressing God's wisdom and power
2. Job knows of God's authority to do as His wisdom pleases

Read Chap 13:1-6

1. *Job says, I already knew all the things you've said, I'm not lower than you so just be quiet*

Read Vs 7-12

1. You as frail men shouldn't put yourself in the place of God and judge me as you have\
 - a. Note: these friends are judging a situation they don't know & calling it sinful – wrong
 - b. We **can** judge known actions that are sinful and call them wrong
2. Job has now heard each of the 3 friends tell him the same thing...to repent and turn to God!

Read Vs 13-19

1. *Job pleads his trust in God & his own integrity*

3rd way to prevent your head from swimming is don't settle for wrong answers (Job 13:20-14:22)

Read Chap 13:20-22

1. *Job begs that God will stop punishing him and speak to him*
2. In desperate situations we get to the point when we need to talk our way thru it
 - a. This is express of our need of relationship

Read Vs 23-28

1. 'God talk to me in my frailty before I rot away into nothingness'
2. He needs God to talk to him b/c he's
 - a. Settling for depression instead of resilience
 - b. Settling for death instead of resurrection

Read Vs 14:1-3

1. 'Why would You judge such a harsh thing as me God?'

Read Vs 4-6

1. Since no one can make the unclean clean again (wrong), leave me alone & let me go to the grave
 - a. Let me settle for death instead of help
 - b. This is like John the Baptist giving up
 - i. Read Matt 11:3-6

Read Vs 7-12

1. Job wishes that mankind had resurrection as the trees do thru the seed (oh how close he is!!)

Read Vs 13-17

1. Just as he longed for a daysman or between us and God and didn't know just how good his longing was, so to it is here with resurrection!

Read Vs 18-22

1. Job believes in the limitless power of God yet wrongly believes God won't resurrect mankind
 - a. Our God wouldn't start a relationship with us only to cut it off
 - b. He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it until the day of Christ

Conclusion

So Job's head must be swimming by this point. All 3 friends are chiding him and misdirected! How do we react when we can correct things & are frustrated?

1. **Don't stew on the false accusations**
 - a. Truth is truth and a lie is a lie
 - b. God knows the truth & HE is judge, not them
2. **Don't seethe feelings of animosity**
 - a. We can actually win people into being willing to think about Jesus by our winsome life as we endure hard times!
3. **Don't settle for wrong answers**
 - a. Though I fall into sin, I have His grace & forgiveness
 - b. Though the world hates me, I have His love with me
 - c. Though the devil slay me, yet I will rise again....and that forever!