



THE GOD-MAN, OUR MEDIATOR

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





The God-Man, Our Mediator

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The God-Man, Our Mediator

SERMON REFERENCE: Job 9:1-2

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1970

Many of us wonder why bad things happen to good people. But the real question is: How can good things happen to bad people?

Sin cannot be explained away by weakness or illness; man is a sinner by birth and by practice. We are too sinful to lift ourselves up to God, and He is too holy to lower Himself down to be only a man.

The only way a holy God and sinful men can come together is through Jesus, the God-man, our Mediator.

Job 9:2 says, "Truly I know it is so, but how can a man be righteous before God?"

After experiencing disaster and loss, Job's three friends came to him, asking the right questions, but giving the wrong answers.

The first man, Eliphaz, spoke of a seducing spirit that appeared to him in a dream and gave him a satanic revelation to pass onto Job. (See Job 4:12-17.) Like Eliphaz's experience, New Ageism, cults, and false doctrine run rampant today, spreading deceit. If we are neutral, we open ourselves up to demonism.

The second friend, Bildad, spoke of humanism and sophisticated reason. (See Job 8:10.) He suggested that for Job to understand what he was going through, he needed to study the ancient wisdom and philosophers of the ages. Nowadays, those like Bildad point to the scientists and evolutionists for answers. These empty ideas are not only wrong but also poisonous.

Job's final friend, Zophar, suggested that the answer is legalism. (See Job 11.) Like Zophar, a lot of religious people will turn to sterile ritualism and self-reformation to try to be right with God.

But Job recognized his real need for a mediator. He saw his need for Jesus before he even knew his name.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 says, "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time..."

Jesus was a qualified mediator: being both God and Man.

Adrian Rogers says, "As much a man as if not God at all... as much God as if not a man at all. Not half-God and half-man, but all God and all man, never another like Him, the God-man."

Life Application

Have you accepted Jesus, the God-man, our mediator? Do you see your need for Him, and seek Him first in times of need?



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SERMON REFERENCE: Job 9:1-2

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The book of Job is the story of a good man who suffered.
- b) When people study the book of Job, they get help and wisdom because it helps to answer the question, "Why do bad things happen to good people?"
 - i) But that is only one of the questions that the book of Job answers.
- c) There is another real theme in the book of Job:
 - i) How can good things happen to bad people?
 - (1) How sinners like us can be forgiven and go to Heaven.
- d) Job 9:1-2
 - i) How can sinners, such as we, be just and righteous and holy with God?
 - (1) The problem is that God is so holy, and we are so sinful.
- e) Job 15:14-16
 - i) Abominable, filthy man drinks iniquity like he drinks water.
 - (1) Today's media wants us to see entertainment as sexy, lusty, filthy, shocking, exotic, and sinful.
 - (a) They say, "Here is something; come and have a drink of this."
 - (2) We have an insatiable appetite for sin.
 - (a) We drink it like water.
- f) Man is a sinner.
 - i) He is a sinner by birth; therefore, he is a sinner by nature.
 - ii) He is a sinner by choice.
 - iii) He is a sinner by practice.
 - iv) He is a sinner habitually.
 - v) There is not a man, woman, boy, or girl who can honestly say that they have not and do not sin.
- g) Behavioral psychologists try to explain away sin.
 - i) They say that man is ill, not evil.
 - ii) They say that man is sick, not sinful.
 - iii) They say that man is weak, not wicked.
 - (1) But that is not what the Bible says.
 - (a) Romans 3:23
 - iv) We try to explain sin away by environment.
 - (1) But the Bible calls it sin.
 - v) It has been said that most of the people in America are egomaniacs strutting their way to Hell thinking they are too good to be damned.
- h) The problem is how can man be just with God because man is so sinful.
- i) Not only is man so sinful, but God is also so holy.
 - i) Job 9:30-31
 - (1) We can do the very best we can in self-reformation.
 - (2) We can get the purest water and scrub ourselves from head to toe.
 - (a) Yet, God sees us wallowing in the gutter.
 - (i) God sees us as we really are.



- j) No word can describe God; but if we had to say what word epitomizes the nature and character of God, it would not be love.
 - i) God is love.
 - (1) He is infinite, matchless, measureless, and glorious love.
 - ii) But the one word that would characterize God would be holy.
 - (1) Isaiah 6:3
 - k) How can we get a holy God and sinful man together?
 - i) That is what the book of Job is about.
 - (1) It is not only about why bad things happen to good people, but how can good things also happen to bad people?
 - (a) How can man be just with God?
 - (b) How can we get right with God?
 - ii) God is holy, and man cannot lift himself to God because man is sinful.
 - iii) God will not lower Himself to man because God is holy.
 - iv) Habakkuk 1:13
 - l) In the book of Job, Job had three friends who tried to answer Job's question, "How can man be just with God?"
 - i) But they gave the wrong answer to the right question.
 - ii) What we will find are three satanically inspired answers to this question.
 - (1) They answered the right question the wrong way.
 - (a) Isn't that clever of the devil?
 - m) The devil is not against religion.
 - i) The devil uses religion to doom souls.
 - ii) The first temptation in the Garden of Eden was not to be ungodly, but to be godly.
 - (1) Genesis 3:5
 - (2) It was not a temptation to fall away from God.
 - (3) It was a temptation to step up toward God, but only to do it the devil's way.
 - n) The devil is the master liar, and the best lies sound the most like truth.
 - i) Every good lie has some truth in it.
 - ii) The devil is a very clever liar.
 - (1) He gets lies that are very close to the truth, yet, so far away from the truth.
 - o) Job said, "How can man be just with God? God is so holy; I am so sinful. I cannot come up to Him, and He will not come to me."
 - i) In today's message, we will look at how three of Job's friends, who were false prophets, tried to answer that question.
- 2) ELIPHAZ'S ANSWER WAS DEMONISM AND SATANIC REVELATION (JOB 4:12-16)**
- a) There was a spirit in the bedroom with Eliphaz.
 - i) Eliphaz took what this spirit said, and he passed it on to Job as bonafide religious information.
 - (1) That is the way of demonism.
 - ii) What was in this bedroom was a demon spirit.
 - (1) It wasn't of God.
 - (a) Job 42:7
 - b) 1 John 4:1
 - i) In this verse, the word "try" means "test".
 - c) 1 Timothy 4:1



- i) That's what happened with Eliphaz.
 - (1) Eliphaz met a seducing spirit who gave out doctrines of the devil.
- ii) Today, we are seeing a fulfillment of this passage.
 - (1) Satan is like a caged animal.
 - (a) He is in a corner, and he is letting loose with all of the artillery of Hell.
- d) We are seeing more New Age demonism than we have ever seen before.
 - i) We are seeing cults that are spreading like wildfire.
 - ii) The Lordship of Christ is a thought that they cannot abide.
- e) What is the New Age?
 - i) It is a syncretism of all of the world's religions into a mystical world view.
 - ii) One New Ager said the following:
 - (1) "We honor the truth and beauty of all the world religions, believing each to have a seed of God, a kernel of the spirit that unites us."
 - (a) There is a spirit that unites them, and that spirit is the same spirit that Eliphaz met in the bedroom.
- f) There are many good, honest, and God-fearing people who dabble in astrology.
 - i) That is of the devil.
 - ii) "Astra" means "stars".
 - iii) "Logos" means "the word".
 - (1) Astrology is the word of the stars as a substitute for the Word of God.
 - iv) Don't mess with it.
 - (1) It is a devilishly inspired revelation.
- g) We see transcendental meditation advertised and even in school courses.
 - i) This is Hinduism.
 - ii) People believe that if they put themselves in a trance, then they will make contact.
 - (1) Something will come in if we put ourselves in a neutral spot and make ourselves open to the devil.
 - iii) The Bible tells us to guard our mind and to keep it with all diligence.
 - (1) Proverbs 4:23
 - (2) When you meditate, don't put yourself in neutral.
 - (a) Fasten yourself upon the Word of God.
 - (b) Meditate on the Word of God.
- h) What we have in these last days is the way of Eliphaz, which is demonism.
- i) One of the biggest ways that the devil and New Age mysticism come in is through the drug culture.
 - i) Drugs are more than just physiological.
 - (1) They are psychological and spiritual.
 - ii) In the Bible, the use of drugs is called "sorcery".
 - (1) Revelation 21:8
 - (2) The word "sorcery" is a translation of the Greek word that we get the word "pharmacist" from.
 - (a) There is nothing wrong with pharmacy.
 - (b) There is nothing wrong with medicine.
 - iii) From ancient times, people have used drugs to put man's mind into a stupor, to enable him or to cause him to lose control, and to open himself up to demon spirits.
 - iv) The founder of an addiction recovery program once said, "I have yet to see a person who is into devil worship or demon worship who did not first of all open his mind to mystical experiences through the use of drugs."



- (1) It is instant heaven that leads to everlasting Hell.
- j) Eliphaz's answer was demonism and Satanic revelation.

3) BILDAD'S ANSWER WAS HUMANISM AND SOPHISTICATED REASON (JOB 8:8-10)

- a) "The former age" in this passage means "of our forefathers".
 - i) The appeal here was not to demonism and satanic revelation.
 - ii) Bildad's appeal was humanism and sophisticated reason.
- b) What was Bildad saying?
 - i) If Job wanted to learn the answer, then he needed to study the accumulated wisdom of the ages.
 - (1) He needed to look to the ancients, the philosophers, the wise, the high, and the mighty.
- c) We do not know who Job's fathers were or what books were in the libraries of his day, but we know who our fathers are.
 - i) Charles Darwin hatched the egg that poisoned the scientific world.
 - (1) He taught us about evolution.
 - (2) There is no way to calculate the damage that has been done.
 - (a) We have children who act like animals because they have been taught that they come from animals.
 - (3) Evolution is a philosophy, not a science.
 - (a) In science, we take a theory into the laboratory to see whether it is true or false.
 - (b) The evolutionists take an idea, say that it is true, and then move Heaven and Earth to try to prove it.
 - (i) But there is no proof.
 - (4) It has been said that, "Scientists who go about teaching that evolution is a fact of life are great con men. The story they are telling may be the greatest hoax ever. In explaining evolution, we do not have one iota of fact."
 - (5) Evolutionists cannot believe in the miracle of creation, yet they are willing to accept millions of miracles.
 - (a) Such as, one life form becoming another life form becoming another life form and so on.
 - (i) Not one demonstrable life form has ever been shown to come from one to another.
 - ii) Soren Kierkegaard hatched the egg that poisoned the religious world.
 - (1) He was the father of neo-orthodoxy.
 - (2) Neo-orthodoxy is a system that says that the Bible is not empirical truth.
 - (a) Not that the Bible is truth, but the Bible contains truth.
 - (b) It becomes true to you when you have an existential I/Thou relationship with the Bible.
 - (i) This means that people no longer believe that the Bible is the fixed, inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God.
 - (3) There was a time when preachers would stand in the pulpit and say, "The Bible says."
 - (a) Then, they started saying, "The church says."
 - (b) Now, they say, "Well, it seems to me."
 - (i) That is existentialism.
 - 1. This is the belief that there is no absolute truth and that the Bible is not the Word of God.
 - a. It just contains the Word of God.
- iii) Karl Marx hatched the egg that poisoned the political word.



- (1) He said that man was just simply the tool of materialism.
 - (2) Karl Marx, the father of Communism, was an atheist.
 - (a) He had no moral absolutes.
 - (b) Atheism is a vital part of Communism.
 - (3) When Karl Marx was asked to give his life's goal, he said that it was to dethrone God and to destroy capitalism.
 - (4) Soviet Communism has imploded.
 - (a) It has shown itself to be a bankrupt system.
 - (b) But it is still being taught in universities in the United States.
 - iv) Sigmund Freud poisoned the psychological world.
 - (1) He is the father of psychoanalysis.
 - (2) He taught that the human race is motivated chiefly by pleasure, primarily eroticism, and that everything begins and ends with sex.
 - (3) He was the philosopher and the patron of extreme permissiveness.
 - (a) This is the belief that little children should be left to unfold.
 - (i) If we resist or rebuke them, if we tell them fornication, adultery, sodomy, and perversion are wrong, then we will give them a neurosis.
 - (b) We see this in society today where nobody is evil; instead, they are ill.
 - (i) Nobody is wicked; instead, they are weak.
 - v) John Dewey hatched the egg that poisoned the educational world.
 - (1) He was a humanist.
 - (a) Humanism is a fancy way of saying atheism.
 - (2) John Dewey was the father of progressive education.
 - (3) He believed that ideas and methods are more important than fixed truth.
 - (a) That is why we have outcome-based education rather than teaching children to add and subtract, read and write, and to know history as it is supposed to be known.
 - (b) Where did it come from?
 - (i) It came from the accumulated wisdom of the ages.
 - (4) Kids are no longer studying Shakespeare.
 - (a) Instead, they are studying eroticism, homosexual literature, etc., to get a PhD.
 - d) This kind of thinking has done the following:
 - i) Sabotaged the Bible.
 - ii) Humanized God.
 - iii) Deified man.
 - iv) Minimized sin.
 - v) Glorified greed.
 - vi) Glamorized sex.
 - vii) Liquorized society.
 - (1) That is the wisdom of the ages.
- 4) ZOPHAR'S ANSWER WAS LEGALISM AND STERILE RITUALISM (JOB 11:13-15)**
- a) How can man be just with God?
 - i) Eliphaz said demonism.
 - ii) Bildad said humanism.
 - iii) Zophar said legalism.
 - (1) This was another false answer.



- b) Job 11:13-15
 - i) Zophar said that Job needed religion; he needed to do good.
 - ii) Some people will not be caught up in satanic revelation or sophisticated reason.
 - (1) But a great number of people will be caught up in sterile ritualism.
 - (a) Rituals, religion, and legalism.
 - iii) Zophar said that Job needed a religion of form and self-effort.
 - (1) He needed to prepare his heart.
 - (a) That is meditation.
 - (2) He needed to stretch out his hands.
 - (a) That is ceremony.
 - (3) He needed to put away sin.
 - (a) That is reformation.
- c) Today, millions of people trudge to church doing those three things (meditation, ceremony, and reformation), and they will leave with empty hearts.
 - i) They are not into demonism or rationalism, but they are into ritualism.
 - ii) They have a form of godliness, but they do not have the power thereof.
 - (1) 2 Timothy 3:5
- d) Job would not believe any of this.
 - i) Job was a man after God's heart.
 - ii) Job 9:1-3
 - iii) Job 9:32-33
 - (1) Some translations may have the word "umpire", "middleman", "arbiter", or "mediator" for the word "daysman".
 - (2) God is holy, and Job was sinful.
 - (3) Job couldn't argue with God.
 - (a) If God had brought Job into court, he could not have answered one out of a thousand questions.
 - (b) Job needed someone to go between.
 - (i) Someone who could bring him to God.
 - (ii) Someone who could lay his hands on them both.
 - 1. He needed a "daysman," a mediator.
 - iv) Who was Job longing for?
 - (1) He was longing for Jesus.
 - (a) 1 Timothy 2:5-6

5) WHAT A MEDIATOR MUST BE (JOB 9:33)

- a) We need a mediator.
- b) A mediator must be qualified.
 - i) Not just any mediator will do.
- c) Here was God, and here was man.
 - i) Suppose a king and a beggar were in a controversy, and the king was bringing the beggar into a lawsuit.
 - (1) The beggar needs someone to speak for him.
 - (a) He needs a mediator.
 - (2) The king gets another king to be the mediator.
 - (3) The beggar says, "No, I don't want two kings to determine my fate."
 - (a) So, the beggar gets another beggar to be the mediator.



- (4) The king says, “Two beggars are not going to gang up on me. I need a mediator.”
- (5) They need someone who can lay hands upon them both.
 - (a) Job 9:33
- ii) Who can lay hands on both?
 - (1) The one mediator between God and man given to us in 1 Timothy 2:5.
 - (a) His name is Jesus.
- d) How is Jesus qualified?
 - i) Jesus is both God and man at the same time.
 - (1) Galatians 4:4
 - (a) Jesus did not have His beginning in Bethlehem.
 - (i) He had His birth at Bethlehem.
 - ii) John 1:1
 - (1) Jesus is co-equal and co-eternal with God the Father.
 - (a) But He stepped out of Heaven and came to this Earth.
- e) Jesus became a mediator, and He became a man.
 - i) Don't get the idea that Jesus was not a man.
 - (1) Jesus was not God only dressed up as a man.
 - (2) Jesus was not God simply inside of a man.
 - (3) Jesus didn't masquerade as a man.
 - (a) He was not wearing a man suit.
 - ii) Jesus became a man as much as any mother's child is a man.
 - (1) He wept, He slept, He hungered, He cried, and He hurt.
 - (2) He was a man.
- f) 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
 - i) Our dominion was legally lost by a man, and it must be legally regained by a man.
 - (1) No spirit can die; a man must die.
 - (a) Romans 6:23
- g) Christ became a man that He might die upon the cross, but He had to be a sinless man.
 - i) He could not have been a son of Adam, because in Adam all die.
 - ii) He had to be the Son of God.
 - iii) He had to be born of a virgin because a son of slaves is a slave himself.
 - (1) Adam was a slave of Satan; but Jesus was the Son of God, and He stepped out of Heaven.
- h) Jesus was man.
 - i) He could lay His hand upon Job.
- i) Jesus was God.
 - i) He could lay His hand upon the Father.
 - ii) He was as much God as God the Father.
- j) Everything that God has, says, and does, Jesus has, says, and does.
 - i) Yet, everything that Job felt, Jesus felt.
 - (1) Jesus is the “daysman who could lay His hand upon us both.”
 - (a) Job 9:33
- k) Between God and man there is a chasm eroded by sin.
 - i) On one side there is holy God; on the other side is sinful man.
 - (1) There is a chasm between the two.
 - ii) The Lord Jesus Christ said that He would bridge that chasm.
 - (1) On one side, He puts down the foundation of His deity; very God of very God.
 - (2) On the other side, He puts down the foundation of His humanity; very man of very man.



- (3) As much man as if not God at all.
- (4) As much God as if not man at all.
- (5) Not half God and half man, but all God and all man.
 - (a) There will never be another like Him, the God-Man.
- l) Having put down a foundation here and a foundation there, the God-Man builds a bridge between God and man and man and God.
 - i) That bridge was made of the rough-hewn timbers of the cross.
- m) There is one God and one mediator between God and man.
 - i) Himself a man, the Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all.
 - (1) 1 Timothy 2:6

6) CONCLUSION

- a) Jesus died for all.
 - i) People ask, "Am I one of the elect?"
 - (1) The elect are the "whosoever wills".
 - (a) Revelation 22:17
 - ii) If you want to be saved, then come.
 - (1) John 6:37
- a) With the blood of His cross, Jesus bridged the chasm between holy God and sinful man.
- b) Jesus, who is the mediator and the God-Man, built a bridge that demonism, humanism, and ritualism cannot build.
 - i) All of those bridges fall under their own weight.
- b) Do you know Jesus?
 - i) A mediator must be accepted by both parties.
 - ii) A mediator must be given absolute authority.
 - iii) A mediator must have both parties in mind.
 - iv) A mediator must be totally just.
 - (1) Do you know anybody else other than Jesus who can fit that bill?
- c) How can man be just with God?
 - i) His name is Jesus.
 - (1) Matthew 1:21
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16



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SERMON REFERENCE: Job 9:1-2

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Would you find in God's Word the book of Job chapter 9? For our Christmas message this morning, we're thinking on this subject, The GodMan, Our Mediator. The GodMan, Our Mediator. Job chapter 9. Now if you're familiar with the book of Job, you know that the book of Job is the story of a good man who suffered. And people study the book of Job and they get help and wisdom from the book of Job because the book of Job helps to answer this question: why do bad things happen to good people? But that's only one of the questions that the book of Job answers. The book of Job answers another question and there's another real theme in the book of Job. Not only why do bad things happen to good people, but listen carefully, how can good things happen to bad people? That also is a theme in the book of Job. How sinners like we can be forgiven and go to Heaven. How can good things happen to bad people?

Look if you will now in Job chapter 9 verses 1 and 2, "Then Job answered and said, 'I know it is so of a truth, but how should man be just with God?'" That is a big question, is it not? How can sinners such as we be just and righteous and holy with God? You see, the problem is this; that God is so holy and we are so sinful. You might just fast forward to Job chapter 15, for example, and see what Eliphaz had to say about your sinfulness and my sinfulness. Beginning in verse 14 through 16, he says, "What is man that he should be clean and he which is born of a woman that he should be righteous? Behold He," that is God, "putteth no trust in His saints, yea, the Heavens are not clean in His sight. How much more abominable and filthy is man which drinketh iniquity like water." Abominable, filthy, man drinks iniquity like he drinks water. Is that not true?

Take today's newspaper, or any newspaper, and look at the entertainment section and the way they want you to see the entertainment is as sexy, lusty, filthy, shocking, exotic, sinful, that's the way they titillate the crowd. They say, "Here is something, come and have a drink of this." We have an insatiable appetite for sin and we drink it like water.

And so man is a sinner. He's a sinner by birth, therefore he's a sinner by nature, therefore he's a sinner by choice, therefore he's a sinner by practice, he's a sinner habitually; he is a sinner. There's not a man, not a woman, not a boy, not a girl who is honest, who would stand and say, "I have not and I do not sin." We are sinners.

And we have the behavioral psychologists today who try to explain away sin and they say that, "Man is ill, not evil, man is sick, not sinful, man is weak, not wicked." But that's not what the Bible says. The Bible says in Romans 3:23, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." We try to explain it away by environment or glands but the Bible calls it sin. And it has well been said that most of the people in America are egomaniacs strutting their way to Hell thinking they're too good to be damned. But the problem is, how can man be just with God, because man is so sinful.

But not only is man so sinful, God is so holy. Look, go back to the verse that we began with in Job chapter 9, and look in verse 30 and 31. Job says, "If I wash myself with snow water and make my hands never so clean, yet shalt Thou plunge me in the ditch and mine own clothes shall abhor me." That is, "God, if I do the very best I can in selfreformation, if I get the purest water and scrub myself from head to toe, yet, dear God, You see me wallowing in the gutter! You see me as I really am." Man is so sinful and God is so holy.

If you had to give one word to describe God, and thank God no word could describe God, and all words cannot describe God, but if you have to say what word more than any other epitomizes the nature of God,



the character of God, contrary to popular opinion, it would not be love. Now God is love, infinite, matchless, measureless, glorious love. I do not diminish the love of God. But if you had to give one word that would characterize God, it would be holy. God is holy. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God of hosts. Now think about it. Man is so sinful and God is so holy!

How can you get a holy God and sinful man together? That's what the book of Job is about, not only why do bad things happen to good people, but how can good things happen to bad people? How can man be just with God? How can we get right with God? God is holy and man is sinful and man cannot lift himself to God because he's sinful and God will not lower Himself to man because God is holy. Now that's a problem. That is the problem. The book of Habakkuk says that in chapter 1 verse 13, "God is of pure eyes than to behold iniquity." So you have the problem.

Now in the book of Job, Job had three friends and these three friends try to answer Job's question, how can man be just with God. And, the question is a good question, but they give the wrong answer to the right question. And what you're going to find is, three satanically inspired answers to this question and they're answering the right question the wrong way. Isn't that clever of the devil? You see, the devil is not against religion. As a matter of fact, the devil uses religion to damn and to doom souls. And the first temptation, in Genesis 3:5, in the Garden of Eden, was not to be ungodly but to be godly. He said, "Do this and you'll be like God." That's what Satan said to Eve. It wasn't a temptation to fall down away from God, it was a temptation to step up toward God, only do it the devil's way. It's very interesting, isn't it? Do you see how clever the devil is?

You see, listen, friend, the devil is the master liar and the best lies sound the most like the truth, and every good lie has some truth in it. A clock that doesn't even run is right twice a day. I want to ask you a question, talking about clocks. What is more dangerous? A clock five minutes wrong or a clock five hours wrong? Now you say, "Well, obviously, a clock five hours wrong," but not so. When you look at a clock that's five hours wrong, you say, "Hey, that is wrong. Somebody tell me what time it is." But you look at a clock five minutes wrong, you miss your plane.

You see, the devil is a very clever liar. And so he gets these lies that are very close to the truth but yet so far away from the truth. And what happened is this: Job says, "How can man be just with God? God is so holy, I am so sinful. How? I can't come up to Him and He won't come down to me." So you have three of Job's friends who were false prophets who tried to answer that question and I want to show you how they tried to answer that question.

The first was a man named **Eliphaz** and you find his answer in Job chapter 4. Go back to Job chapter 4 and look if you will, please, beginning in verse 12. Here's what Eliphaz had to say about this question. Now he says in verses 12 through 16, "Now a thing was secretly brought to me and mine ear received a little thereof in thoughts from the visions of the night, when deed sleep falleth on men. Fear came upon me and trembling, which made my bones to shake. Then a spirit passed before my face, the hair of my flesh stood up. It," that is the spirit, "stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof. An image was before mine eyes. There was silence and I heard a voice saying," and I'm going to leave off what the voice said because that's not a part of my purpose at this point.

Eliphaz said, "Job, let me tell you what happened to me. Let me give you my experience. Maybe it will help you, Job." He says, "The other night when I was in my bedroom," he said, "I was aware of a presence in the room." He said, "I was moved with fear. I was in the middle of my sleep. I woke up and someone or something was in that room with me. There was a spirit in that room. I opened my eyes, I looked at this thing as it materialized. I could not quite make the form out of it, and this being, this thing that came into the room, it spoke to me, it revealed some things to me. It gave to me some inside information. And Job, I'm going to pass that on to you. Maybe that'll help answer the question, 'How can you be just with God?'"



Now, I don't know about you, but folks I don't want to wake up in the middle of the night and find somebody or something like that in my bedroom. I'm like that man who said, "He was walking through the cemetery and he thought he saw a ghost. And he said he put out his hand to see if the ghost was there and the ghost wasn't there. Then he said the ghost put out his hand to see if he was there. He said, 'I wasn't there either.'" That's the way I would be, to be in this kind of a situation. Some weird, eerie, spooky thing was in the bedroom with Eliphaz. But what does he do? He takes what this thing, this spirit says, and he passes it on to Job as bona-fide religious information. Now folks, that's the way of demonism. What was in this bedroom was a demon spirit. Now you say, "Pastor, are you sure it wasn't God?" Yes, because later on in the book, in Job 42 verse 7, God said, "These men have not spoken that which was of Me." It wasn't of God.

Listen to what the Bible says in First John chapter 4 verse 1, "Beloved, believe not a free spirit, but try," or test, "the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world." And you know you and I believe that we're living in the latter days, and First Timothy chapter 4 and verse 1 says, "Now the Spirit," that is the Holy Spirit, "speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils." That's what happened here. Eliphaz meets a seducing spirit who gives out doctrines of devils. Now what is happening today is this. We're seeing a fulfillment of that passage that says, "In the latter days some shall depart from the faith." The 90's are a decade of demons. Hell is having a holiday, and as we are getting closer to the end of a millennium, the end of an age, I believe, Satan is like a caged animal, he's in a corner, and he's letting loose with all of the artillery of Hell and we are seeing more New Age demonism than we've ever had before. We are seeing cults, as Dr. Lee, the former pastor of this church, said, "Isms that oughta be wasms." Cults that are coming on and are spreading like wildfire.

I was in the airport down in Tampa. I saw one of these cultists, one of these demon-inspired girls there, I watched her combination of sex and false doctrine seducing these sailor boys out there. It infuriated me. I got up from my seat, I just kind of hoped that she would come to me, to talk to me, but she wouldn't come to talk to me, she was talking to these young boys who at: 18, 19, 20, 21, 22. I was too old and ugly. I tried to get her to come to me. Finally I just went to her.

I said, "May I say something to you?" She said, "What?" I fastened my eyes on her and I said, "Jesus Christ is Lord." When I said that, she screamed a maniacal scream, sounded like a banshee, "Yaaaaa!" It went all over the airport. I thought I was going to get arrested. The very name of Jesus, the very name of Jesus. The Lordship of Christ was a thought that she could not abide. Demon spirits.

We have today New Age syncretism. What is the New Age? It is an amalgamation, a syncretism, of all of the world's religions into a mystical world view. One New Ager said this, "We honor the beauty and truth of all the world religions, believing each to have a seed of god, a kernel," now listen to this, "of the spirit that unites us." And there is a spirit that unites us and that spirit, of course, is the same spirit that Eliphaz met in the bedroom.

And we have today, many of you who are Baptists and Methodists and Presbyterians and Episcopalians and good, honest, Godfearing people still dabble in astrology. God pity you. That's of the devil! Do you know what astrology is? Astrology, astro-logos. Astra, the stars, logos, the word. It is the word of the stars as a substitute for the Word of God. Don't mess with it.

A couple of decades ago we have a woman named Jean Dixon taking the world by storm. Everybody talking about Jean Dixon, Jean Dixon this and Jean Dixon that. And somebody says, "Well, brother Rogers, she made some wonderful prophecies." Indeed, I don't dispute that. But was she 100% accurate? Of course not. Well, that's very interesting. So where does she get her knowledge? She doesn't get it from



God because she doesn't know enough. She doesn't get it from human intuition because she knows too much. Where's she get it? From the devil himself. It's devilishly inspired revelation. Astrology.

And then, I see it advertised in our papers today, even in school courses, paid for with tax money. Transcendental meditation. All that is is Hinduism, and yoga, and these other things have been re-baptized, repackaged and sent over here and paid for with your tax money. Meditation. And you're going to put yourself in a trance.

You say, "Well Pastor Rogers, I just believe that if I put myself in a trance, I'll make contact." You will. It'd be like saying at nighttime, "I'm going to go to bed and unlock all the doors, all the windows, and go to sleep and see if I make contact." You will. Something will come in. I mean, you put yourself in a neutral spot and make yourself open to the devil. Friend, I'm telling you, in Proverbs 4:23 the Bible says, "Guard your mind. Keep it with all diligence." You say, "You against meditation?" No, but when you meditate you don't put yourself in neutral, you fasten yourself upon the Word of God. Meditate on the Word of God. But what we have in these last days, folks, is the way of Eliphaz, which is demonism.

Let me tell you one of the biggest ways that the devil and this New Age mysticism is coming in. Do you know it's through the drug culture? Did you know that drugs are more than just physiological, they're psychological and spiritual? Did you know that in the Bible the use of drugs is called sorcery? Revelation chapter 21 and verse 8, "But the fearful and the unbelieving and the abominable and murderers and whoremongers and sorcerers and all idolaters shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." And in that litany of wickedness is the word sorcery. Young's Concordance says that the word sorcery is a translation of the Greek word pharmakeia, the word we get pharmacist from. Now there's nothing wrong with pharmacy, there's nothing wrong with medicine, but from time immemorial, people have used drugs to put man's mind into a stupor to enable him or to cause him to lose control and to open himself up to demon spirits.

David Wilkerson, who has worked with drug addicts and devil worshippers for many years. I don't agree with everything David Wilkerson says, he's my brother in Christ, however, but here's what he did say. He said, "I have yet to see a person who is into devil worship or demon worship who did not first of all open his mind to mystical experiences through the use of drugs." "I have yet to see a man who is into devil worship, demon worship, who did not first of all open his mind up to mystical experiences through the use of drugs." It is instant Heaven that leads to everlasting Hell.

That is one way. Now, of course, not everybody's going to buy into demonism and Satanic revelation, so the devil is very clever, so he gets another one of Job's friends to give to Job and answers how a man can be just with God. Not only Eliphaz, but **Bildad**. Go to chapter 8 now and hear what Bildad had to say. In chapter 8, Job chapter 8. Now I'm going to cut to the chase and just give you the heart of what he had to say in verses 8 and 9. He says, "For enquire, I pray thee, of the former age," that is, of our forefathers, "And prepare thyself to the search of their fathers, for we are but of yesterday and know nothing because upon Earth are a shadow." That is, "We just got here, we're not dry behind the ears, we haven't had the chance to know all that we ought to know." So he says, "Go back to the former age, go back and blow the dust off of some of those volumes in the library, and begin to read the accumulated wisdom of the ages."

Notice in Job 8 verse 10, "Shall not they teach thee and tell thee and utter words out of their heart?" Now, what is the appeal here? The appeal here is not to demonism and satanic revelation. The appeal here is humanism and **sophisticated reason**. Humanism. What is this man saying? He's saying, "Job, if you want to learn the answer, you need to go and study the accumulated wisdom of the ages. Look to the ancients. Look to the philosophers. Look to the wise, the high, the mighty. We just got here, our days are but a shadow and what you need to do is to go back and go to those big volumes of wisdom. Blow the dust off, get educated."



I don't know who Job's fathers were, and I don't know what were in the libraries of his day, but I know who our fathers are. Dave Breese has written a book; *Five Men Who Ruled The World From Their Graves*, and indeed, he's right about this, there are five people that, all of them in the 19th Century, that are ruling the 20th Century from their graves. Let me just tell you who those five men are.

Number one: Charles Darwin. Charles Darwin: who in 1809 hatched the egg that poisoned the scientific world; who taught us about evolution. There's no way to calculate the damage that is done and we have children who are acting like animals because they've been taught that they come from animals. You say, "Adrian, are you against science?" No! Evolution is a philosophy, not a science. I studied science. I know what the scientific method is. I'm not a scientist, but I know that in science you take a theory, a postulate, you go into the laboratory to see whether it's true or false. But the evolutionists, they take an idea, say it is true, and then they move Heaven and Earth to try to prove it. But there is no proof.

Dr. Newton Tahmisian, a physiologist for the Atomic Energy Commission has said this, "Scientists who go about teaching that evolution is a fact of life are great con-men and the story they are telling may be the greatest hoax ever. In explaining evolution we do not have one iota of fact." Now get that in your head!

I read the newspapers. All that hullabaloo about life from Mars. They said, "We were wrong." I mean, "We were wrong!" But I mean, all of the headlines, all of the news stories, it's an incredible thing. They cannot believe in the miracle, they cannot believe in the miracle of creation, and yet they are willing to accept millions of miracles. One life form becoming another life form becoming another life form becoming another life form. Not one demonstrable life form has ever been shown to come from one to another. Where are the fossils? They talk about the missing link, they're all missing! They don't even have a chain, much less a missing link!

Go back and check your fathers, check Charles Darwin, check Soren Kierkegaard. He was born in 1813. He hatched the egg that poisoned the religious world. You say, "I've never heard of him." Well, he's a fine man in many ways, in his own way I believe loved God. But he was the father of neoorthodoxy. And what is neoorthodoxy? You say, "I never heard of it." Well, neoorthodoxy is a system that says, "The Bible is not empirical truth, not that the Bible is truth, but the Bible contains truth, it becomes true to you when you have an existential I/Thou relationship with the Bible."

You say, "What does that mean?" Well, it means, dear friend, that people no longer believe that the Bible is the fixed, inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God. There was a time when preachers would stand in the pulpit and say, "The Bible says," then they started saying, "The Church says," and now they just say, "Well it seems to me." That's existentialism. That's our fathers. No absolute truth. The Bible is not the Word of God, it just contains the Word of God.

And then there's another man who poisoned our world. His name was Karl Marx, he was born in 1818. He hatched the egg that poisoned the political world. He said that, "Man is just simply the tool of dialectical, materialism". Karl Marx, the father of Communism, was an atheist. And being an atheist, he had no moral absolutes. Atheism is a vital part of communism. When Karl Marx was asked to give his life's goal, he said, "It is to dethrone God and to destroy capitalism." At least he had a goal; he knew where he was going. Dethrone God, destroy capitalism.

Now Soviet Communism has imploded. It's shown itself to be a bankrupt system. They've got all these textbooks. I'll tell you where they get rid of them, sell them to the universities in the United States of America, because it's still being taught over here. And you'd be surprised on our major campuses how many thoroughgoing socialists and capitalists are indoctrinating our children today with our tax money. These men ruling the world from their graves.

Another man was Sigmund Freud. He's the man who poisoned the psychological world. He was born in 1856; he's what we call the father of psychoanalysis. And what did Sigmund Freud teach? He taught



that the human race is motivated chiefly by pleasure, primarily eroticism, that everything begins and ends with sex, and so he is the philosopher, the patron of extreme permissiveness that little children, you just need to let them unfold. If you resist or rebuke them, if you tell them that fornication is wrong, adultery is wrong, sodomy is wrong, perversion is wrong, lesbianism is wrong, you're liable to give them a little neurosis. So what you do is, you just let them unfold, and this is extreme permissiveness. And we see this in society today, again, where nobody is evil, they may be ill, nobody is wicked, they may be weak. So if little Throckmorton wants to cut the leg off the dining room table, you just keep the saw sharp so he won't frustrate himself. Little Throckmorton; He'll grow up to be wonderful, he'll grow up to black your eye. Now let me tell you something, friend, that thought, that system is in the world today.

Another man of our fathers who has poisoned the world today is a man named John Dewey. John Dewey poisoned the educational world. He was born in 1859 and John Dewey was a humanist. You say, "What is humanism?" That's a fancy way for saying atheism. The names have been changed to protect the guilty. John Dewey was the father of progressive education. And he had the idea that ideas and methods are more important than fixed truth.

That's why we have today something called outcomebased education, rather than teaching children to add and subtract, read and write, and to know history as it is supposed to be known. Where did that come from? It came from the accumulated wisdom of the ages, but it's belched out of Hell, really, and today, look at what is happening in education. Look at art. Kids are no longer studying Shakespeare; they're studying eroticism and homosexual literature and so forth to get a PhD. And in art, you go to an art gallery; you can't tell whether it's a sunset or a scrambled egg. Two little boys in a modern art gallery who were looking at some of that stuff and one of them said to the other one, "We'd better get out of here before somebody thinks we did it!" That's the progressive education that we have here today. And this kind of thinking has sabotaged the Bible, humanized God, deified man, minimized sin, glorified greed, glamorized sex, and liquorized society. That's the wisdom of the ages.

How can man be just with God? Eliphaz says demonism. Bildad says humanism. **Zophar** says legalism. Go back, look if you will in chapter 11 now. Here's another one of these false answers. How can man be right with God? Beginning in verse 13, here's what Zophar says to old Job. Job's heart wants to know how can I, a sinner, be right with God? Here's what Zophar says in Job 11 verses 13 through 15, "If thou prepare thine heart and stretch out thine hands toward Him. If iniquity be found in thine hand, put it far away and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles. For then shalt thou lift up thy face without spot, thou shalt be steadfast and shall not fear."

Now what he's simply saying is this, "Job, what you need is religion. What you need is to do good." You see, some people are not going to be caught up in satanic revelation. Other people are not going to be caught up in sophisticated reason. But a great number of people are going to be caught up in sterile ritualism. Sterile ritualism; rituals, religion, legalism.

What he's saying to this man is this. He says, "Job, what you need is the religion of form and selfeffort. What you need to do is to prepare your heart. That's meditation. What you need to do is stretch out your hands. That's ceremony. What you need to do is put away sin. That is reformation; meditation, ceremony, reformation, meditation, ceremony, reformation."

May I submit to you that in America today millions are trudging to churches doing those three things and will leave with empty hearts. They're not into demonism, they are not into rationalism, they're into ritualism. I mean, they have a form of godliness, but they do not have the power thereof. Augustus Toplady well said it when he said, "Could my tears forever flow, could my zeal no languor know, these for sin could not atone, thou must save and thou alone."



Well old Job, old Job won't buy any of this. Go back to Job chapter 9. Job was a man after God's heart and so in Job chapter 9, look again in verse 1 through 3, "Then Job answered and said, 'I know it is so of a truth, but how shall man be just with God, for if he will contend with Him, he cannot answer Him one of a thousand.'" He said, "I couldn't answer one out of every thousand questions God asks me. He's God! I'm a man." And then skip on down if you will and look at verse 32 and 33. Here's what he says, "For He," God, holy, holy God, "For He is not a man as I am that I should answer Him and we should come together in judgment, neither is there any daysman betwixt us that He might lay His hand upon us both." Now if you have a different translation you may read the word umpire or you may read the word middleman or you may read the word arbiter or you may read the word mediator. I prefer the word mediator as the best. "And neither is there any mediator between us that He might lay His hand upon us both."

Do you know what Job says? Job says, "Oh God, You are holy, I am sinful, I need You. God I can't argue with You. God if You bring me into court I can't answer one out of a thousand questions. I'm a sinner. I need somebody to go between. I need somebody to bring me to You. I need somebody who can lay his hands upon us both. I need an arbiter. I need a middleman. I need a daysman. I need a mediator."

Do you know who he was crying for? Do you know who he was longing for? You know His name, don't you? Say it, Jesus, Jesus. Listen, take your Bible and turn to First Timothy chapter 2 verses 5 and 6. Listen to it, "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all." That's Christmas, folks. That's Christmas. You say, "Adrian, I wondered when you were going to get to Christmas." That's Christmas. That's Christmas! "Neither is there a daysman between us that He might lay His hand upon us both." I need a mediator.

And let me tell you what a mediator must be. Number one a mediator has to be qualified. Not just any mediator would do. Now here's God and here's man. Suppose a king and a beggar were in a controversy and the king is bringing the beggar into lawsuit. And the beggar says, "I need somebody to speak, I need a mediator." The king says, "All right, I'll get another king." And the beggar says, "No, I don't want you two kings to try to determine my fate. I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll get another beggar and let him be the mediator." The king says, "You two beggars are not going to gang up on me. I need a mediator. 'I need somebody who can lay His hands upon us both.'" Who is that? That, my friend, is the one Mediator between God and man given to us in First Timothy chapter 2 verse 5, and His name is Jesus.

And how is Jesus qualified? Because Jesus is both God and man at the same time. Galatians 4:4, "God sent forth His Son made of a woman. God sent forth His Son but made of a woman." Listen, this is the miracle of Christmas. Jesus did not have His beginning in Bethlehem. He had His birth at Bethlehem. He existed forever. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God," coequal and coeternal with God the Father, but He stepped out of Heaven and came to this earth. He became a mediator and He became a man. Don't get the idea that Jesus was not a man. Don't get the idea somehow that Jesus was God only dressed up as a man.

I was listening to the news and I heard about a man out in Utah who was in prison, thought he could get out of prison, had a good plan. He got a great big crate, addressed it, sealed himself up in it, had himself nailed in it, put an address. Did you read that, hear that? Put an address on the outside to ship himself home. And he's on the inside and they take this crate thinking it's legitimate, he was all the way outside the prison with this thing, when somebody bumped it and he said, "Ouch." And so, he's back in prison. This happened in the news out in Utah.

You see, that was just a man inside of a box, but Jesus was not God just simply inside of a man. That was not a package; He became a man. Now listen, don't ever forget this. He wasn't just masquerading as a man, He wasn't just wearing a man suit. He became a man, as much a man as any mother's child in this



building is a man. He wept, He slept, He hungered, He cried, He hurt. He was a man! A man! Why? Because the Bible tells us in First Corinthians 15 verses 21 and 22, "Sin by man came death, by man also came the resurrection of the dead. As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Our dominion was lost by a man, legally lost, it must be legally regained by a man. No spirit can die, a man must die. Romans 6:23 tells us, "The wages of sin is death." Christ became a man that He might die upon that cross. But He had to be a sinless man. He could not have been a son of Adam, because in Adam all die. He had to be the Son of God, so therefore He had to be born of a virgin because a son of slaves is a slave himself. And Adam was a slave to Satan, but Jesus was the Son of God and He stepped out of Heaven. Listen to me, He was man of very man. He could lay His hand upon Job. But He was God of very God. He could lay His hand upon the Father. He was as much God as God the Father. Everything that God has, says, and does, Jesus has, says, and does. And yet everything that Job felt, Jesus felt. He was the: "Daysman who could lay His hand upon us both."

You see, between God and man there is a chasm, eroded by sin. Over here is holy God. Over here is sinful man. Here is the chasm between the two. The Lord Jesus Christ says, "I am going to bridge that chasm." And so over here He puts down the foundation of His deity, very God of very God. And over here He puts down the foundation of His humanity, very man of very man. As much man as if not God at all. As much God as if not man at all. Not half God and half man, but all God and all man, never another like Him, the Godman, the Godman! And having put down a foundation here and put down a foundation there, then the Godman builds a bridge between God and man and man and God and that bridge is made of the roughhewn timbers of a cross! Listen to this, there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, himself man, the Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all.

And by the way, the hyper Calvinists have difficulty with this: a ransom for all. He died for all! People say, "Am I one of the elect?" Let me tell you something, friend, the elect are the whosoever will. People have been arguing about that for two millenniums and I settled it in three seconds. Whosoever will! You want to be saved, come! And Jesus said in John 6:37, "Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." And with the blood of His cross, He bridged the chasm between holy God and sinful man and He, the Mediator, the Godman, built a bridge that demonism and humanism and ritualism cannot build, because all those bridges fall under their own weight.

Do you know Jesus? Let me tell you something. A mediator must be accepted by both parties. A mediator must be given absolute authority. A mediator must have both parties in mind. He must be totally just. Do you know anybody else other than Jesus who can fit that bill? I don't. How can man be just with God? His name is Jesus. No wonder the angel said in Matthew 1 verse 21, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sin." If I had a thousand lives, I'd give every one of them to Jesus and I want you to know Him.

Bow your heads in prayer. Heads are bowed. Why don't you say, "Lord, I cannot lift myself to You in my sinful state and You cannot come down to me until something is done with my sin. So now, now I believe that there's one who can bridge the gap between me and You, and His name is Jesus." Pray like this, "Lord Jesus, come into my heart today. Give me the courage not only to receive You, but to make it public. In Your name I pray. Amen"



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