**SERMON OUTLINE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SERMON TITLE:** | The God-Man, Our Mediator |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Job 9:1-2 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1970 |
|  |  |
| We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline producedfrom a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving aspastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee.This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers’ messages,Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotationsin printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced,stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other—without the prior permission of the publisher.Copyright ©2024 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc. |

1. INTRODUCTION
	1. The book of Job is the story of a good man who suffered.
	2. 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?”
		1. But that is only one of the questions that the book of Job answers.
	3. There is another real theme in the book of Job:
		1. How can good things happen to bad people?
			1. How sinners like us can be forgiven and go to Heaven.
	4. Job 9:1-2
		1. 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.
	5. Job 15:14-16
		1. 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.
				1. They say, “Here is something; come and have a drink of this.”
			2. We have an insatiable appetite for sin.
				1. We drink it like water.
	6. Man is a sinner.
		1. He is a sinner by birth; therefore, he is a sinner by nature.
		2. He is a sinner by choice.
		3. He is a sinner by practice.
		4. He is a sinner habitually.
		5. There is not a man, woman, boy, or girl who can honestly say that they have not and do not sin.
	7. Behavioral psychologists try to explain away sin.
		1. They say that man is ill, not evil.
		2. They say that man is sick, not sinful.
		3. They say that man is weak, not wicked.
			1. But that is not what the Bible says.
				1. Romans 3:23
		4. We try to explain sin away by environment.
			1. But the Bible calls it sin.
		5. 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.
	8. The problem is how can man be just with God because man is so sinful.
	9. Not only is man so sinful, but God is also so holy.
		1. 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.
				1. Yet, God sees us wallowing in the gutter.

God sees us as we really are.

* 1. 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.
		1. God is love.
			1. He is infinite, matchless, measureless, and glorious love.
		2. But the one word that would characterize God would be holy.
			1. Isaiah 6:3
	2. How can we get a holy God and sinful man together?
		1. 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?
				1. How can man be just with God?
				2. How can we get right with God?
		2. God is holy, and man cannot lift himself to God because man is sinful.
		3. God will not lower Himself to man because God is holy.
		4. Habakkuk 1:13
	3. In the book of Job, Job had three friends who tried to answer Job’s question, “How can man be just with God?”
		1. But they gave the wrong answer to the right question.
		2. What we will find are three satanically inspired answers to this question.
			1. They answered the right question the wrong way.
				1. Isn’t that clever of the devil?
	4. The devil is not against religion.
		1. The devil uses religion to doom souls.
		2. 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.
	5. The devil is the master liar, and the best lies sound the most like truth.
		1. Every good lie has some truth in it.
		2. 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.
	6. 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.”
		1. In today’s message, we will look at how three of Job’s friends, who were false prophets, tried to answer that question.
1. Eliphaz’s answer was demonism and satanic revelation (job 4:12-16)
	1. There was a spirit in the bedroom with Eliphaz.
		1. Eliphaz took what this spirit said, and he passed it on to Job as bonafide religious information.
			1. That is the way of demonism.
		2. What was in this bedroom was a demon spirit.
			1. It wasn’t of God.
				1. Job 42:7
	2. 1 John 4:1
		1. In this verse, the word “try” means “test”.
	3. 1 Timothy 4:1
		1. That’s what happened with Eliphaz.
			1. Eliphaz met a seducing spirit who gave out doctrines of the devil.
		2. Today, we are seeing a fulfillment of this passage.
			1. Satan is like a caged animal.
				1. He is in a corner, and he is letting lose with all of the artillery of Hell.
	4. We are seeing more New Age demonism than we have ever seen before.
		1. We are seeing cults that are spreading like wildfire.
		2. The Lordship of Christ is a thought that they cannot abide.
	5. What is the New Age?
		1. It is a syncretism of all of the world’s religions into a mystical world view.
		2. 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.”
				1. There is a spirit that unites them, and that spirit is the same spirit that Eliphaz met in the bedroom.
	6. There are many good, honest, and God-fearing people who dabble in astrology.
		1. That is of the devil.
		2. “Astra” means “stars”.
		3. “Logos” means “the word”.
			1. Astrology is the word of the stars as a substitute for the Word of God.
		4. Don’t mess with it.
			1. It is a devilishly inspired revelation.
	7. We see transcendental meditation advertised and even in school courses.
		1. This is Hinduism.
		2. 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.
		3. 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.
				1. Fasten yourself upon the Word of God.
				2. Meditate on the Word of God.
	8. What we have in these last days is the way of Eliphaz, which is demonism.
	9. One of the biggest ways that the devil and New Age mysticism come in is through the drug culture.
		1. Drugs are more than just physiological.
			1. They are psychological and spiritual.
		2. 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.
				1. There is nothing wrong with pharmacy.
				2. There is nothing wrong with medicine.
		3. 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.
		4. 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.
	10. Eliphaz’s answer was demonism and Satanic revelation.
2. bildad’s answer was humanism and sophisticated reason (job 8:8-10)
	1. “The former age” in this passage means “of our forefathers”.
		1. The appeal here was not to demonism and satanic revelation.
		2. Bildad’s appeal was humanism and sophisticated reason.
	2. What was Bildad saying?
		1. 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.
	3. 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.
		1. 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.
				1. 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.
				1. In science, we take a theory into the laboratory to see whether it is true or false.
				2. The evolutionists take an idea, say that it is true, and then move Heaven and Earth to try to prove it.

But there is no proof.

* + - 1. 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.”
			2. Evolutionists cannot believe in the miracle of creation, yet they are willing to accept millions of miracles.
				1. Such as, one life form becoming another life form becoming another life form and so on.

Not one demonstrable life form has ever been shown to come from one to another.

* + 1. 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.
				1. Not that the Bible is truth, but the Bible contains truth.
				2. It becomes true to you when you have an existential I/Thou relationship with the Bible.

This means that people no longer believe that the Bible is the fixed, inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God.

* + - 1. There was a time when preachers would stand in the pulpit and say, “The Bible says.”
				1. Then, they started saying, “The church says.”
				2. Now, they say, “Well, it seems to me.”

That is existentialism.

This is the belief that there is no absolute truth and that the Bible is not the Word of God.

It just contains the Word of God.

* + 1. 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.
				1. He had no moral absolutes.
				2. 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.
				1. It has shown itself to be a bankrupt system.
				2. But it is still being taught in universities in the United States.
		2. 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.
				1. This is the belief that little children should be left to unfold.

If we resist or rebuke them, if we tell them fornication, adultery, sodomy, and perversion are wrong, then we will give them a neurosis.

* + - * 1. We see this in society today where nobody is evil; instead, they are ill.

Nobody is wicked; instead, they are weak.

* + 1. John Dewey hatched the egg that poisoned the educational world.
			1. He was a humanist.
				1. 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.
				1. 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.
				2. Where did it come from?

It came from the accumulated wisdom of the ages.

* + - 1. Kids are no longer studying Shakespeare.
				1. Instead, they are studying eroticism, homosexual literature, etc., to get a PhD.
	1. This kind of thinking has done the following:
		1. Sabotaged the Bible.
		2. Humanized God.
		3. Deified man.
		4. Minimized sin.
		5. Glorified greed.
		6. Glamorized sex.
		7. Liquorized society.
			1. That is the wisdom of the ages.
1. zophar’s answer was legalism and sterile ritualism (job 11:13-15)
	1. How can man be just with God?
		1. Eliphaz said demonism.
		2. Bildad said humanism.
		3. Zophar said legalism.
			1. This was another false answer.
	2. Job 11:13-15
		1. Zophar said that Job needed religion; he needed to do good.
		2. 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.
				1. Rituals, religion, and legalism.
		3. Zophar said that Job needed a religion of form and self-effort.
			1. He needed to prepare his heart.
				1. That is meditation.
			2. He needed to stretch out his hands.
				1. That is ceremony.
			3. He needed to put away sin.
				1. That is reformation.
	3. Today, millions of people trudge to church doing those three things (meditation, ceremony, and reformation), and they will leave with empty hearts.
		1. They are not into demonism or rationalism, but they are into ritualism.
		2. They have a form of godliness, but they do not have the power thereof.
			1. 2 Timothy 3:5
	4. Job would not believe any of this.
		1. Job was a man after God’s heart.
		2. Job 9:1-3
		3. 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.
				1. If God had brought Job into court, he could not have answered one out of a thousand questions.
				2. Job needed someone to go between.

Someone who could bring him to God.

Someone who could lay his hands on them both.

He needed a “daysman,” a mediator.

* + 1. Who was Job longing for?
			1. He was longing for Jesus.
				1. 1 Timothy 2:5-6
1. what a mediator must be (job 9:33)
	1. We need a mediator.
	2. A mediator must be qualified.
		1. Not just any mediator will do.
	3. Here was God, and here was man.
		1. 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.
				1. 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.”
				1. 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.
				1. Job 9:33
		2. Who can lay hands on both?
			1. The one mediator between God and man given to us in 1 Timothy 2:5.
				1. His name is Jesus.
	4. How is Jesus qualified?
		1. Jesus is both God and man at the same time.
			1. Galatians 4:4
				1. Jesus did not have His beginning in Bethlehem.

He had His birth at Bethlehem.

* + 1. John 1:1
			1. Jesus is co-equal and co-eternal with God the Father.
				1. But He stepped out of Heaven and came to this Earth.
	1. Jesus became a mediator, and He became a man.
		1. 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.
				1. He was not wearing a man suit.
		2. 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.
	2. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
		1. 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.
				1. Romans 6:23
	3. Christ became a man that He might die upon the cross, but He had to be a sinless man.
		1. He could not have been a son of Adam, because in Adam all die.
		2. He had to be the Son of God.
		3. 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.
	4. Jesus was man.
		1. He could lay His hand upon Job.
	5. Jesus was God.
		1. He could lay His hand upon the Father.
		2. He was as much God as God the Father.
	6. Everything that God has, says, and does, Jesus has, says, and does.
		1. Yet, everything that Job felt, Jesus felt.
			1. Jesus is the “*daysman who could lay His hand upon us both*.”
				1. Job 9:33
	7. Between God and man there is a chasm eroded by sin.
		1. On one side there is holy God; on the other side is sinful man.
			1. There is a chasm between the two.
		2. 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.
				1. There will never be another like Him, the God-Man.
	8. Having put down a foundation here and a foundation there, the God-Man builds a bridge between God and man and man and God.
		1. That bridge was made of the rough-hewn timbers of the cross.
	9. There is one God and one mediator between God and man.
		1. Himself a man, the Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all.
			1. 1 Timothy 2:6
1. CONCLUSION
	1. Jesus died for all.
		1. People ask, “Am I one of the elect?”
			1. The elect are the “whosoever wills”.
				1. Revelation 22:17
		2. If you want to be saved, then come.
			1. John 6:37
	2. With the blood of His cross, Jesus bridged the chasm between holy God and sinful man.
	3. Jesus, who is the mediator and the God-Man, built a bridge that demonism, humanism, and ritualism cannot build.
		1. All of those bridges fall under their own weight.
	4. Do you know Jesus?
		1. A mediator must be accepted by both parties.
		2. A mediator must be given absolute authority.
		3. A mediator must have both parties in mind.
		4. A mediator must be totally just.
			1. Do you know anybody else other than Jesus who can fit that bill?
	5. How can man be just with God?
		1. His name is Jesus.
			1. Matthew 1:21
	6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	7. 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.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16