

Women's Bible Study

Follows

Lessons 24 and 25

AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF
THE BOOK OF JOB

AND THE LORD
Blessed
JOB

Elizabeth Bagwell Ficken

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

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- “When life goes wrong, our concept of God may begin to deteriorate... first in small misconceptions, but these gradually become major misrepresentations of divine character.” (John Walton, NIV Application Commentary)

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- God terrorizes him. Job 6:4
- God is over attentive. Job 7:17-21
- God is a power abuser. Job 9:17-18
- God is an indiscriminate destroyer. Job 9:22-23 , Job 10:3
- God is his attacker. Job 16:7-9
- God destroyed his reputation. Job 17:6
- God made a mess of his life. Job 19:6-9
- God has denied him justice. Job 27:2

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- Job let his suffering, confusion, and awareness of his innocence... distort his perspective about God's character and behavior.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity “The vice I am talking of is Pride or Self-Conceit: and the virtue opposite to it, in Christian morals, is called Humility. According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Impurity, fornication, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete ANTI – GOD state of mind.”
- Deep dark hidden pride shows itself in sins labeled as *a.* independence *b.* Legalism *c.* unbelief *d.* idolatry *e.* all other sins have pride as their root.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- The opposite of pride - the most important virtue: HUMILITY
- Humility is the chief mark of man's relationship with God. The humble man realizes that God is free to be all in all and the humble man accepts that God is free to do all that He chooses. Humility is the sense of entire nothingness on our part, which comes when we see how truly God is all, and we make the way for God to be all.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

THE WISDOM OF GOD

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- **Job 28:23-27** ²³ God understands its way, And He knows its place. ²⁴ For He looks to the ends of the earth, *And* sees under the whole heavens, ²⁵ To establish a weight for the wind, And apportion the waters by measure. ²⁶ When He made a law for the rain, And a path for the thunderbolt, ²⁷ Then He saw *wisdom* and declared it; He prepared it, indeed, He searched it out.
- When he brought order out of the primeval chaos (vv.25-26), He used wisdom to do it. Wisdom is the **summary** of the genius God used to fashion the universe. (Smick)

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- God's wisdom is founded on His **omniscience**
- And God's wisdom is the perfect **application** of His knowledge
- God's wisdom is carried out by His **omnipotence**.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- The Lord doesn't have to give us an explanation of **why** He is doing things... **understanding** why He does something is not wisdom.
- But knowing the Lord, and **trusting** Him, **fearing** Him and **obeying** Him... that is the wisdom that we need in our trials.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- That wisdom is accessible to us... not because we can dig it out of mines, not because we can buy it, but because it has been given to us... **by GOD'S GRACE.**
- **Ephesians 3:8-13** ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.
- We can't **buy** wisdom, but in His wisdom ... **God bought** us with the unsearchable, priceless blood of Christ.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- God's wisdom planned that Jesus would suffer and die for us, and His wisdom planned for us to be His **witnesses and servants** on the earth.
- **1 Corinthians 1:20-24** ²⁰ Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- God has **given** His wisdom to us through His Son and in His Son.
- **Colossians 2:2-3** Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Women's Bible Study

Homework:

Lessons 26 and 27

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