

**Job Ch 9 Men's Bible Study by Rick Burgess**

**Job chapter 9** is a powerful lament where Job responds to his friend Bildad by emphasizing the overwhelming and incomprehensible power of God. He acknowledges that as a mortal, he cannot possibly contend with God, who is both immensely wise and powerful, and fears that even if he were innocent, his own words would condemn him before God's holiness. This leads to his fervent plea for an umpire or mediator to stand between them so he can speak without fear, a cry that unknowingly expresses a need for intercession.

**Key themes in Job chapter 9**

- **God's incomprehensible power:**

Job begins by praising God's wisdom and strength, citing how God can move mountains, shake the earth, and seal off the stars, which makes any attempt by a human to question or contend with Him futile.

- **Human inability to be righteous before God:**

Job recognizes his own and humanity's inability to be declared righteous before a holy God. He states, "How can a man be righteous before God? If one wished to contend with Him, He could not answer Him one time out of a thousand". He fears that if he were to try to justify himself, his own mouth would condemn him.

- **The need for a mediator:**

Job's frustration and fear lead him to a desperate plea for a mediator, an "umpire" or "arbiter," to stand between him and God. He wishes for a way to have his case heard without the terrifying presence of God, which paralyzes him and prevents him from speaking.

- **God's justice and suffering:**

Job struggles with the apparent injustice of his suffering. He agrees with his friends that God punishes sin, but he believes his suffering is disproportionate and wonders why he must suffer while others, who are also wicked, seem to prosper.

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The document discusses Job's response to his friends' theological arguments about suffering, highlighting his feelings of helplessness and confusion regarding God's presence and sovereignty amidst his suffering.

**Job's Dilemma and Theological Flaws**

Job grapples with the inadequacies of his friends' theology regarding suffering and God's justice.

- Job acknowledges the flawed theology of his friends, Eliphaz and Bildad, who believe suffering is always a result of sin.
- He feels he is innocent and cannot find any sin to justify his suffering.
- Job recognizes God's perfection, wisdom, and love, leading him to question why he is suffering despite his righteousness.
- He expresses a sense of hopelessness, feeling unable to contend with God or understand His ways.

**God's Sovereignty and Human Limitations**

Job reflects on God's immense power and his own inability to question or understand God's actions.

- Job describes God's might, stating that no one can successfully challenge Him.
- He acknowledges God's control over nature, including the sun, stars, and sea, emphasizing God's sovereignty.
- Job feels invisible to God, expressing frustration over God's silence in his suffering.
- He recognizes that humans have no standing to question God, highlighting the vast difference between divine and human wisdom.

**The Nature of Suffering and Innocence**

Job contemplates the relationship between suffering and innocence, suggesting that both the righteous and wicked experience hardship.

- He begins to question the traditional belief that only the wicked suffer, suggesting that the innocent also face calamity.
- Job feels that God treats both the blameless and the wicked similarly in terms of suffering.
- He expresses confusion over why the wicked seem to prosper while he, an innocent man, suffers greatly.

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**Summary/Overview From The Rick Burgess Show:**  
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### **Job's Despair and Search for Justice**

Job expresses deep despair over his situation, feeling condemned despite his innocence.

- He laments that his life is fleeting and filled with suffering, comparing it to a runner or an eagle swooping down.
- Job questions the value of maintaining a positive attitude when he believes he will still be found guilty.
- He feels that his efforts are in vain, as he believes he is already condemned regardless of his actions.

### **The Importance of Accountability and Self-Understanding**

Job reflects on the need for self-awareness and accountability in understanding one's actions and character.

- He acknowledges that he may not fully understand himself or his actions, leading to feelings of loathing.
- Job emphasizes the importance of having others to provide perspective and accountability in life.
- He recognizes that his friends are unable to point out his faults, which adds to his frustration and confusion.

### **The Power of Suffering and Praise**

Suffering can serve as a powerful platform for glorifying God and demonstrating faith.

- The act of praising God during suffering is emphasized as a profound testimony.
- Job expresses the futility of trying to cleanse oneself from sin, highlighting human inability to achieve righteousness.
- The discussion foreshadows the New Covenant and the need for an advocate to bridge the gap between humanity and God.

### **The Need for an Arbitrator**

Job's longing for an arbitrator reflects humanity's need for a mediator with God.

- Job acknowledges that he cannot negotiate with God or present his case in court.
- The text highlights the absence of an arbitrator who can mediate between God and man.
- This need is fulfilled in Jesus, who serves as the perfect advocate and arbitrator.

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### **The Role of Jesus as Advocate**

Jesus is presented as the essential mediator who takes on God's wrath for humanity.

- The concept of Jesus as the bridge between sinful humanity and a holy God is illustrated.
- Job's search for an arbitrator is fulfilled in Jesus, who stands between God and humanity.
- The discussion emphasizes that the redeemed will not face God's wrath due to Jesus' sacrifice.

### **The Significance of Holy Week**

The timing of the study coincides with Holy Week, underscoring the importance of Jesus' sacrifice.

- The speaker reflects on the divine orchestration of Job's story aligning with the week of Jesus' crucifixion.
- The message is directed towards those feeling hopeless, emphasizing the availability of redemption through Jesus.
- The call to repentance and faith in Jesus is presented as the pathway to reconciliation with God.

### **The Call to Redemption**

The text concludes with an invitation for individuals to seek forgiveness and redemption through Jesus.

- The speaker encourages listeners to confess their sins and accept Jesus as their Lord.
- A promise of celebration in heaven is made for those who genuinely repent and turn to Jesus.
- The assurance of being found innocent before God through Jesus' advocacy is emphasized.

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