

## *Job 9.4-13—Job's Tribute to God's Wisdom and Strength*

### **God is wise and strong, v.4**

- I. God is wise in heart and mighty in strength, Rom 11.33-36; Jer 32.17. Clearly, man is too foolish to judge God's works and too weak to challenge God's might. Knowing this, Job is in no way trying to charge God with wrong (recall Job 1.21; 2.10).

### **The wisdom and strength of God in creation, vv.5-10**

- I. The wisdom and strength of God are on display in His creation.
  - A. God's strength over the mountains, Ps 97; 106; 114; Hab 3; Isa 40. Nothing can equal this divine might.
  - B. God's strength over the earth, Isa 51.16. Having founded the earth, surely God has the power to shake it.
  - C. God's strength over the sun, Ps 19. For how massive and commanding the sun is, it's a tool in God's hands.
  - D. God's strength over the stars, Ps 8
  - E. God's strength in stretching out the heavens, Isa 45.12; 48.13
  - F. God's strength trampling on the waves of the sea, Gen 7; Ex 14
  - G. God's wisdom in designing and clustering the various constellations for our pleasure and use, Amos 5.8
- II. In the face of God's hard providences against him, Job's encomium testifies to his reverence for God and evidences both his godliness (Job 1.8) and his innocence (Job 6.30).

### **The wisdom and strength of God in providence, vv.11-13**

- I. Three things about God's ways that show how ludicrous it is to think any man could ever call God to account for His actions.
  - A. The sheer mystery of God's ways, Ps 77.19. All we see is second causes. We have no place from which to judge God's works.
  - B. God's absolute, incontestable sovereignty, cf. 1.21; 2.10; Dan 4.35
    - 1. God has the right to do what He will with His creation.
    - 2. God's might is such that none can undo what He did.
    - 3. God's station is such that He's not at all obligated to give anyone a reason for His actions.
  - C. The irresistible power of God, Ps 2

- II. All in all, Job's arguing that he was in no way trying to call God to account for what He'd done in his life. His cries to heaven are not the presumptuous cries of a creature who doesn't know his place.
- III. We're left to echo Job's tribute and say with the prophets, "Who is a God like our God!?" (Isa 40.18). He made the heavens and the earth and there is none like Him (Ex 8.10), so infinitely above man's scrutiny, so far above being charged with wrong, and so worthy of worship, love, and honor.

### **Reflections for Application**

- I. Who ever hardened himself against God and won (v.4)?
  - A. All the opposition given to God is but setting briars and thorns before a consuming fire, Rev 12; Jude 6; Ex 14; Isa 37. Can weakness take on omnipotence? Can ignorance take on omniscience?
  - B. Let this be a lesson to us all. All our resistance to God will end in our own ruin.
    - 1. It's utter madness to harden yourself against God because He will have His way with you.
    - 2. Better to stand against an army of 10 million devils than against the one, true, and living God, cf. Lk 14.31-32
  - C. Believers can be guilty of hardening themselves against God too, Heb 3.12
    - 1. If that's what you're doing, you must know that it can't end well. God will take away your peace, joy, comfort, blessings, and whatever else, to convince you of the folly of your choice and mercifully drive you back into His arms.
    - 2. So let's pray for submissive, trusting hearts, hearts that rest in God's arms rather than wrestle with God's ways.
- II. See what a great encouragement this passage is to trust God.
  - A. He is the all-wise God and the almighty God. Whatever He does is right and good. We can rejoice in His every providence.
  - B. What an incentive this is to entrust your all into His hands! He can't wrong you. He can't let you down. He can't fail.
  - C. Here's the greatest impetus you could have to your courage, your faith, your joy, your hope, and your comfort.
  - D. Repent of your sins against so great and good a God and rejoice that His wisdom, His strength, and His all, are all for you.