



Taking God Almighty to Court

Lesson 11 • Job 8–10

Have you ever wanted to sue someone into oblivion?

Or at least take someone to court to get back what is yours or to clear your good name?

What if the person you think has done you wrong is also the Judge who will try your case?

*What if that person is **GOD**?*

The Miserable Comfort of Bildad the Brutal Traditionalist Job 8	The Persevering Response of Job the Blameless Sufferer Job 9–10
How to Not Help a Hurting Friend A Brutal Beating with the Rod of Prosperity Theology	Taking God Almighty to Court Won't Be Easy A Case that Even Perry Mason Could Not Win!

A Brutal Beating with the Rod of Prosperity Theology

Whack #1 Look Up: God Is JUST! (8:3-7)

"Your cry of despair is really a destructive attack on the very character of God! Do you really think God Almighty perverts justice like you do by claiming to be suffering for no cause?"

Bildad Is Brutally Beating Job with Eliphaz's "REAP WHAT YOU SOW BEFORE YOU DIE" Theology:

- Everyone reaps what they sow before they die—*this law of the harvest is never broken!* (4:7-11; 8:5-7)
- Everyone is sinful—*so no one is so blameless as to be completely sinless!* (4:12-21; 8:4-6)
- **THEREFORE**, everyone suffers for his or her sin! (5:1-7; 8:5-7)

Whack #2 Look Back: Tradition Is WISE! (8:8-10)

"You think you are wise, but if you would just listen to the wisdom of past generations you would understand that what I am saying is rooted in years of time-tested teaching by men much wiser than you and me!"

Whack #3 Look Around: Creation Is INSTRUCTIVE! (8:11-19)

"Wise up and look at creation! A well-watered plant with deep roots never dries but godless people like you with no spiritual depth quickly die and are soon forgotten!"

Whack #4 Look Within: Blamelessness Is a BLESSING! (8:20-22)

"It is so black and white, I cannot believe you don't get it! Repent of your sin right now and God will immediately bless your blamelessness with even greater prosperity!"

Where Did Bildad the Brutal Traditionalist Go Wrong?

- Like Eliphaz, Bildad made the **wrong assumptions**.
- Like Eliphaz, Bildad took the **wrong approach**.
- Like Eliphaz, Bildad had the **wrong attitude**.

Taking God Almighty to Court – A Case Perry Mason Could Not Even Win! Job 9–10

"Then Job answered, 'In truth I know that this is so; But how can a man be in the right before God?'" Job 9:1-2

1. If I Could STAND before God, What Would I Say? (9:14-19)

Job: "God Almighty is too wise and too powerful to bother with me or for me to win Him over with my intelligence or innocence!"

2. If I Could TESTIFY to My Own Blamelessness, What Good Would It Do? (9:20-24)

Job: "God Almighty is unfair in how He allows bad things to happen to good people...like me!"

3. If I Could "Name It and Claim It", What Would It CHANGE? (9:25-31)

Job: "God Almighty won't forgive me even if I had more faith or tried to be more pure!"

4. God, If You Would Just Meet My DEMANDS, I Might Actually Survive! (10:1-22)

Job: "God, you don't really love me anymore! Otherwise You would do what I want and give me what I really need...right now!"

- **Stop** being against me: God, you won't ever forgive me. (10:2-7)
- **Start** really loving me: God, you don't really love me. (10:8-13)
- **Stop** being unfair/unreasonable/unpredictable with me: God, you aren't very fair. (10:14-17)
- **Start** giving me some answers: God, you should have never let me be born alive. (10:18-19)
- **Just give a little relief to me:** God, you won't even cut me some slack before I die. (10:20-22)

5. If We Could Just Have a MEDIATOR in Court, Everything Would Work Out! (9:32-35)

Job: "It is impossible for me to take God Almighty to court and win unless there is a Mediator that stands between us!"

1) JESUS brings GOD AND PEOPLE TOGETHER in the INCARNATION to resolve their differences!

"For He is not a man as I am that I may answer Him, That we may go to court together. Job 9:32

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world." 1John 2:1-2

2) JESUS is the ONE TRUE MEDIATOR between God and people to resolve their differences!

"There is no umpire between us, Who may lay his hand upon us both. Job 9:33

"For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time." 1 Timothy 2:4-6

3) JESUS has MADE PEACE POSSIBLE on the Cross by being the perfect sacrifice for our sin and absorbing the full wrath of God, so we can sort this mess out together!

"Let Him remove His rod from me, And let not dread of Him terrify me. Then I would speak and not fear Him; But I am not like that in myself. Job 9:34-35

[Jesus] whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:25-26

Lessons to Apply When God's Sovereignty Over Our Adversity Seems Unjust

- When misery breaks our spirit, we need **mercy** not brutality and **kindness** not bluntness.
 - When misfortune ruins our lives, we need **God-centered trust** not self-centered demands.
 - When mystery fills our soul, we need the **revelation of the incarnate Mediator** not the traditions of men.