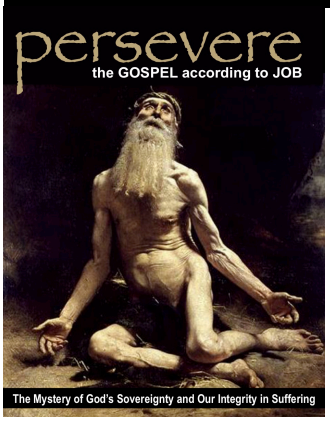


Broken Praise

Responding to God from the Ash Heap of Despair

Lesson 26 • Job 42:1-6

The book of Job teaches us that God will reveal Himself to us in the midst of our suffering. The question is HOW should we respond when He does?

Job teaches us to respond with **BROKEN HALLELUJAH = PRAISE***!*

Broken Praise Sings with…

1. A Heartfelt SUBMISSION to the God Who Is Sovereign Over All!

"I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you" NLT
"I'm convinced: You can do anything and everything. Nothing and no one can upset your plans." Job 42:2 MSG

Why Submit to God's Sovereignty Over Your Suffering?

➤ God is **POWERFUL** over all things.

Our God Has the Power to…

1) Be **PRESENT** with us when it seems like He is absent.
2) Be **SPEAKING** to us when it seems like He is silent.
3) Be **COMPASSIONATE/KIND** toward us when it seems like He is cruel.
4) Be **WISE** in dealing with us when it seems like He is doing is foolish.
5) Be **POWERFUL** when it seems like He is weak (and powerless to do anything).
6) Be **IN CONTROL** when it seems like He is not in control.
7) Be **PURPOSEFUL** with us when it seems like He is purposeless.

This Power Is the Power and the Mystery of the Cross!
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; Luke 22:22; Acts 2:22-24; 3:13-15; 4:27-28

➤ God is **PURPOSEFUL** in all things.

2. A Humble CONFESSION that God Is Wiser than Me!

"The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is the knowledge of our own ignorance." ~Charles Spurgeon

God's Confrontation of Job	Job Repeats God's Confrontation as a Confession
Job 38:2 God's First Confrontation Who is this that darkness counsel By words without knowledge?	**Job 42:3 [You asked]** Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge? Therefore I have declared that which I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
Job 38:3; 40:7 God's First & Final Confrontation Now gird up your loins like a man, And I will ask you, and you instruct Me!"	**Job 42:4 [You said]** Hear, now, and I will speak; I will ask you, and You instruct me

Like Job, We Need to Confess in the Midst of Our Suffering that...

- We ***darken*** God's wisdom with our foolish words and limited understanding.
- We ***declare*** God's ways be unwise, unjust, unfair or unkind, when we really don't understand Him or His ways and they are too wonderful for us to fully understand!
- We ***determine*** that God's will should conform to our will, since we are so much more wiser, just, and kind.

3. An Healthy ADMISSION that I Know God Better Now than Before My Suffering!

"HEARING" *ABOUT GOD when everything is going the way you expect is vastly different from…*

"HEARING" *FROM GOD when nothing is going right and you are still sitting on the ash heap of despair!*

4. A Holy REJECTION of a Wrong Talking and Thinking!

Job Is Basically Saying Two Things to the Lord , While He Still Sits on the Ash Heap of Despair

"I retract (= taking back) *what I said about You and I repent* (= changing the direction) *of my attitude towards You!"*

Broken Praise Is Heartfelt, Humble, Healthy, and Holy Because...

1) It **RETRACTS** (takes back) wrong talk about God and His wisdom, His ways, and His will in suffering.

   What words does Job retract and take back?

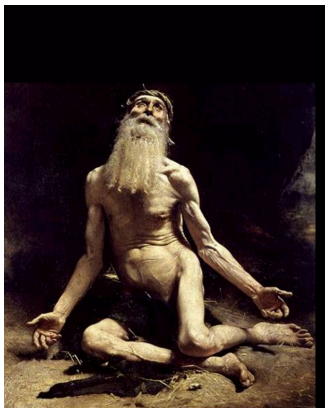
2) It **REPENTS** (changes direction) of wrong attitudes towards God and His wisdom, His ways, and His will in suffering.

   What sin does Job repent of?

3) It realizes we are no more than the dust and ashes without a right relationship with the LORD, who is Our Sovereign Creator and Ever-present Redeemer and Gracious Promise Keeper!

   Why are Job's last words are "dust and ashes"?

Sometimes repentance before God is the greatest comfort of all
for it opens the door to a deeper and closer relationship with God Himself!



Broken Praise Is a Heartfelt, Humble, Healthy, & Holy Response to God in our Suffering that...

SUBMITS to God as the One who greater than all things—*including our suffering.*

CONFESSES that God is wiser than we are about all things—*including our suffering.*

ADMITS that knowing God better is worth preserving through all things—*including our suffering.*

REJECTS anything that lessens God's sovereignty, justice, and compassion in all things—*including our suffering.*