

Yet Will I Trust Him

Job and the Mystery of Suffering



Job 38:1-4

Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand."

The Grand Failure? Forced into submission?



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Job struggles to embrace a God who does not seem to be good, no matter how powerful he may be.

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Job struggles to embrace a God who does not seem to be good, no matter how powerful he may be.

O.k., God is all-powerful, but how is that helpful? How is that an answer?

The Grand Failure? Forced into submission?

- God's response is a *uniquely personal* appearance to a man in pain.

A serene landscape photograph of a wooden pier extending into a calm body of water at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. The water reflects the warm colors of the sky. In the background, there are low hills or mountains. A white rectangular text box is overlaid in the upper center of the image.

The answer to life's hardest questions is God himself.

The Grand Failure? Forced into submission?

- God's response is a *uniquely personal* appearance to a man in pain.
- God's response is a *supremely gracious* appearance to a man in pain.

The Grand Failure? Forced into submission?

- God's response is a *uniquely personal* appearance to a man in pain.
- God's response is a *supremely gracious* appearance to a man in pain.
- God's response is a *truly effective* appearance to a man in pain.

The Grand Failure? Forced into submission?

God reveals aspects of his own character that directly connect to Job's pain. He reveals truths to Job that he needs to know when he's suffering—truths that we need to know when we're suffering, too.

Divine **STRENGTH**

God shows himself to be infinitely powerful.



Divine **STRENGTH**

God shows himself to be infinitely powerful.

When I am suffering, I need to know that
God is still in charge of the universe.

Divine WISDOM

God shows himself to be infinitely perceptive.



Divine WISDOM

God shows himself to be infinitely perceptive.

When I am suffering, I need to know that
God still has a good purpose for me.

Divine JOY

God shows himself to be infinitely playful.



Divine JOY

God shows himself to be infinitely playful.

When I am suffering, I need to know that
God is still delighted with his creation.

Divine LOVE

God shows himself to be infinitely parental.



Divine LOVE

God shows himself to be infinitely parental.

When I am suffering, I need to know that
God still cares about me personally.

The Grand Finale! Freed into submission!



A wooden pier extends from the foreground into the ocean. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds, and the water is calm. The pier is made of dark wooden planks and has several vertical posts along its length. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

The Grand Finale! Freed into submission!

“Child, when you’re suffering, don’t lower your view of me. Elevate your faith in me.”

The Grand Finale! Freed into submission!

“Child, when you’re suffering, don’t lower your view of me. Elevate your faith in me.”

“My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.” (Job 42:5)

The Grand Finale! Freed into submission!

If Job can see the beautiful face of God, who loves his creatures with great joy and delight—as a mother loves her children—then Job will *see, or feel* in some way that he, too, is encompassed by that love.

The Grand Finale! Freed into submission!



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When Mr. Darcy finally reveals himself in all of his charity, love, and good deeds, Elizabeth is melted by love.



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