

Sunday Sermon 102024 Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Hebrews 5:1-10

“The Question Which Itself Is the Answer to the Question”

The terminology “Bombardment of Questions” is a word that anyone can easily understand nowadays. I thought this term would sometimes come up when the president of the United States gives a press conference.

However, looking at the text of the book of Job today, we learn that God used this method on Job in the distant past. However, in such a hurry, God did not give Job any time to answer but poured out his questions like a quickfire.

People often defend their position by asking the other person questions. On the other hand, there is a saying that good questions lead to good thoughts and good answers. Let's take a look at what the real lessons the Old and New Testament scriptures teach us today.

I. Today's text in the book of Job is one of the longest direct words of God in the Bible. The creation articles presented in this chapter explain the creation events in Genesis in more detail. If the creation of Genesis emphasizes the creation of the Word of God, we can also think of the creation in this chapter emphasizing the creation of wisdom. Indeed, we can see that Word and Wisdom are the fundamental principles of creation.

The author of the Book of Job shows that God, the Creator of heaven and earth, is not only majestic but also a wise person who grasps the fundamental structure and principles of the natural world. Humans, even though they have their own legitimacy, are often too foolish and shortsighted when compared to God's plan. However, God responds to our flaws and shows us that He is faithful in maturing His people.

Today, chapter 38, which contains the scripture of the book of Job, consists of a total of 27 questions. In fact, the answers to those questions seem too easy. However, when we are in times of difficulty like Job was, it is not easy to actually think about the answers. Let's think about this.

We tend to limit God when we are in times of trouble, thinking that he will not or cannot help us. But it is God who shut up the sea behind doors, who brought light to darkness, who formed the earth.

The purpose of God's questions is not that Job quickly finds the answers. These questions really make the hearer ponder and criticize the questions and answers, discovering who God is and who I am. God's questions are linked to Chapter 39. And now, in chapter 40, he asks Job for an answer.

But Job responds by saying, "How dare I answer the Lord?" And he gives up the answer. Job knew that God required the resolution of the mind instead of a simple answer.

How long will it take you to read and answer the text of the book of Job today? It took me 2 minutes and 5 seconds to read this at normal speed. If Matthew reads this quickly and answers it, it will probably take less than a minute.

However, if we want to give the answer that God truly wants, an hour, a day, or a month may be insufficient for each question, and furthermore, we will have to ponder and answer for the rest of our lives. Because our whole faith must be the answer to this question.

How will you respond if God today gives you these questions in the book of Job? In fact, the questions do not need an answer. The questions themselves explain who God is and what he did. Through them, he is firmly proclaiming that he made all things and all our lives. God asks us questions because he wants us to ask him any question. He has answers and solutions to every human question.

If someone has created me, there are four possibilities as to how the creator feels about me afterward. 1) The creator loves me. 2) The creator is indifferent to me. 3) The creator hates me. 4) The creator deals with me according to his mood changes.

In the cases of 2, 3, and 4, we must quickly break with him and flee from him. We need to live as beings that are loved, and we can only truly be such beings by abiding in God. But if we choose to live that way, we need to live in accordance with His will. Because His power, love, and promise guarantee our lives.

Mr. Cho was a prominent anchor at MBC TV, a Korean TV. He was already a Washington correspondent in the United States and a journalist.

At that time, he thought that there were a lot of wrong things in this world and that nearly everyone except himself should be criticized. However, he was converted at the age of 47 and turned to Jesus. After that, he went to Boston to study theology and returned to Korea, where he became a minister at the age of 63. Now he is 73 years old.

He left this post on his Twitter site. "I picked up a stone in my twenties to change the wrongdoings in the world by force. I was in my thirties. I gave a grim look at my wife to try to fix her mistakes. I picked up a stick in my forties to discipline my children.

I became the fifty and realized that it was not me that needed to change everyone else. It was me that had to change. And I put down everything: the stone, grim look, and stick I had ever held, and put everything in Jesus' hands, and my life has ever been better."

This is how Rev. Cho came to believe in Jesus. Cho's wife has begun to attend the Early Morning Prayer meeting of the church in the neighborhood. Cho, an unbelieving broadcaster, attended the golf driving range next to the church at the same time and trained. One day in the morning, Cho went to the driving range of the golf course, but the place was closed due to the repair.

At that time, Cho wondered why his wife was going to church. As he entered the church, the sanctuary light went out. Finally, the preaching of the pastor was over, and the personal prayer time began. Here and there, the speakers spoke strange tongues, and the loud voice of the prayers filled the interior.

Suddenly, Cho was surprised, and he thought it was a cult of some sort. In fact, this church was a very big and famous Presbyterian church. So, he planned to do an expose on the church, hoping to get some kind of information.

He decided to go to church every morning for a week and look at the whole situation of the church. But on the fourth day, while hearing the praise he had never heard and sang, suddenly tears began pouring out of his eyes, and repentance broke out of his heart. And the words Jesus proclaimed, "I am God," shocked his heart.

From that day on, he wanted to know Jesus and believe in the God who gave tears of inspiration to his heart. He bought the Bible and read the whole Old and New Testaments four times. Then he went to the church where his wife went and received Jesus as his Savior.

He boldly confesses through his personal experience, "Christianity is not a religion. It is the way, truth, and life of me, as Jesus said." Then, we have to think here: who made the golfer's footsteps go to church?

II. Hebrews: Then, in the Hebrew scripture today, let us see how the Father God and the Son Jesus use their absolute power and sovereignty.

The Creator God uses his greatest power in the universe and history to come to this world as a human. And he sacrifices his life for you and me, the smallest and weakest of the creatures. I have mentioned before about the suffering of Jesus. Today, let's focus only on verse 9, "When he was made perfect."

If I were Jesus, I would know what to do first after I was made perfect. I imagine that I would be filled with rage and would have retaliated against those who persecuted me for all the pain and sacrifice I suffered. Can you condemn me for this reaction? No one will condemn me on the earth since that is human nature.

But Jesus did not. What did He do? "He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obeyed him" (v. 9 b). He first saw how painful his obedience to his father's salvation plan was and how great the glory of resurrection was after that suffering. So, as a result, he knew what the eternal value of that obedience was and became an example of obedience of our faith.

Jesus was "the source of eternal salvation" for you and me, still in ignorance and unbelief in God. This is why we can live without losing hope, joy, and boldness in any environment.

Do you have a firm belief that the Creator God has made you not only during the worship but in your daily life? Then you are guaranteed two things. 1) You must know His will and obey it. 2) You can entrust your entire life to Him and enjoy true peace.

The Lord asks you today. "Do you know who made you a child of the blessing of eternal life in Jesus Christ? Also, do you remember that I sacrificed my son on the cross so that the whole world might be saved?" And the Lord wants you to answer his questions with your faith and life, not just your lips.

There will be no more blessed and exciting life in this world than walking with the Creator, who was introduced in Job's questions, and with Jesus Christ, who obeyed the Father's plan of salvation!

I bless you in your everyday life, through fellowship with the Holy Spirit, that the Lord will come to you every day and that you will always be attentive with eyes and ears open, seeking and waiting for him. Amen.

Reflections and Applications for Today's Sermon:

- 1) For the next week, try to answer God's questions in Job 38 and 39 for Job. Then, count how many answers you can come up with. What do you feel after you answer?
- 2) Meditate on Hebrews 5:7. How do the "loud cries and tears" Jesus offered to the Father while on earth challenge your daily devotional life?
- 3) Through Job's questions and through the incarnation, suffering, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God shows His wisdom and power. How does that God guide you in your prayers for this nation as it faces an election in the midst of turbulent politics and a bleak economic outlook?