



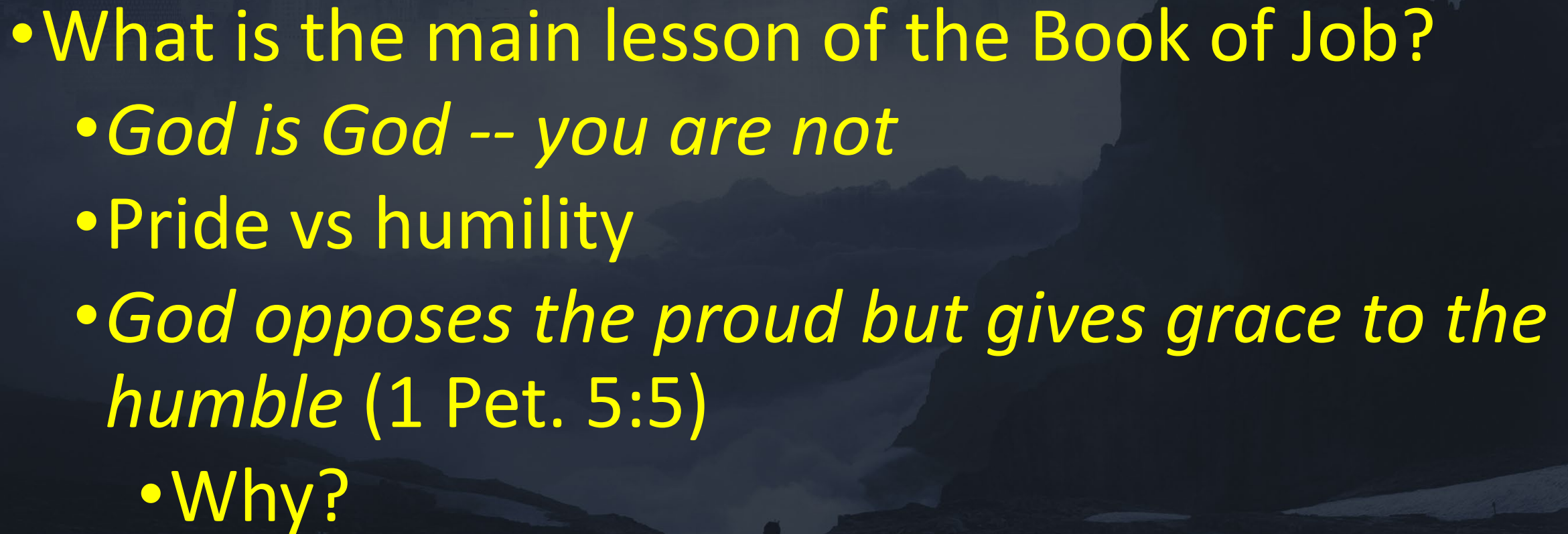




God to Job:

“What color is your shirt?”

“What color is My shirt?”

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- What is the main lesson of the Book of Job?
 - *God is God -- you are not*
 - Pride vs humility
 - *God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Pet. 5:5)*
 - Why?



The Jealous God

A Follow-up to
the Book of Job

What Do We Mean By *Jealous*?

- *Jealous* – *desire; zeal; passion*
 - Based on possession, ownership, rightful due
 - “the intolerance of rivalry or unfaithfulness” (EBCOT: Zech. 1:14)
 - E.g. – husband and wife
 - Often associated with *anger, wrath, fire*

Why is *Jealousy* OK for God but not us?

- Good or bad depending on object or motive
 - *Zeal for what one is rightfully due*
 - God is rightfully due all worship, praise, glory, honor, devotion, obedience, focus, etc.
 - “for you shall not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” (Ex. 34:14)
 - What are we *rightfully due*?

What is God *Jealous* About?

1. His nature / character / being

- See Ex. 20:3-6; 34:12-17; cf. Rom. 1:18-25
- Nothing physical can accurately represent God
 - Any idol or likeness is a misrepresentation and therefore a false god
- God wants us to know Him as He is, not as we might conceive Him to be
 - Reveals His *divine nature* (Rom. 1:20)

What is God *Jealous* About?

1. His nature / character / being

- See Ex. 20:3-6; 34:12-17; cf. Rom. 1:18-25
- Making false gods is an act of hate! (pride)
 - False views passed on to next generation(s)
- God is merciful to those who worship Him by loving Him and keeping His commandments
 - *God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Pet. 5:5)*

What is God *Jealous* About?

2. His Name

- God's presence
 - *Dwelling* (Deut. 12:11; Ps. 140:13)
- God's self-disclosure – ways, holiness, truth
 - To be walked in (Mic. 4:5; Zech. 10:12)
 - To be feared (Deut. 28:58-59; Ps. 86:11)
- God's glory
 - Praise! (Ps. 29:2; 66:2; Isa. 42:8; 48:11)

What is God *Jealous* About?

2. His Name

- See Ezek. 20; 36:16-23; 39:7-8, 25 (cf. Ps. 78)
 - God's name was profaned among the nations because of Israel's sin and exile
 - God promised He would restore them for His name's sake, not for their sake (cf. Isa. 48:11)

What is God *Jealous* About?

3. His People Israel

A. Punishing their unfaithfulness

- Deut. 32:15-22; Ps. 78:54-64; 1 Kings 14:22
- Idolatry = *spiritual adultery*
- Israel was constantly unfaithful
- God responded like a jealous Husband (see Hosea)

What is God *Jealous* About?

3. His People Israel

B. Pursuing their welfare

- See Zech. 1:12-17; 8:1-17; Ps. 78
 - God used other nations to punish Israel
 - The nations went too far
 - God's jealousy moved Him to act on Israel's behalf

Theological Wordbook of the OT

“God’s jealousy when offended issued in just retribution, but when stirred by his grace it resulted in eternal love.”

- Pride exalts self, seeking honor that is not deserved, which offends God
- But God gives grace to those who humble themselves before Him
- What color is your shirt?

Theological Wordbook of the OT

“God expects man to return his love. Love, however, is not simply an emotion. It is a structured relationship. To love God is to obey him. So [*jealousy*] is used to denote a passionate, consuming ‘zeal’ focused on God that results in the doing of his will and the maintaining of his honor in the face of ungodly acts of men and nations.”

- E.g. - Phinehas (see Numbers 25)

So What?

- God is jealous for His own glory
 - God cares what we believe and say about Him
 - We should be jealous for God's name / glory
 - “do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - We should respond with humility (like Job)
 - We exist for Him, not *vice versa*
- How is God helping you in this right now?

Wayne Grudem

“It is healthy for us spiritually when we settle in our hearts the fact that God deserves all honor and glory from his creation, and that it is right for him to seek this honor. He alone is infinitely worthy of being praised. To realize this fact and to delight in it is to find the secret of true worship.”

