

What do you think?

What are the similarities between  
a *surgeon* and a *butcher*?

How are they different?

What do you think?

How is *physical therapy* like *torture*?

Why are we willing to do one  
but not the other?



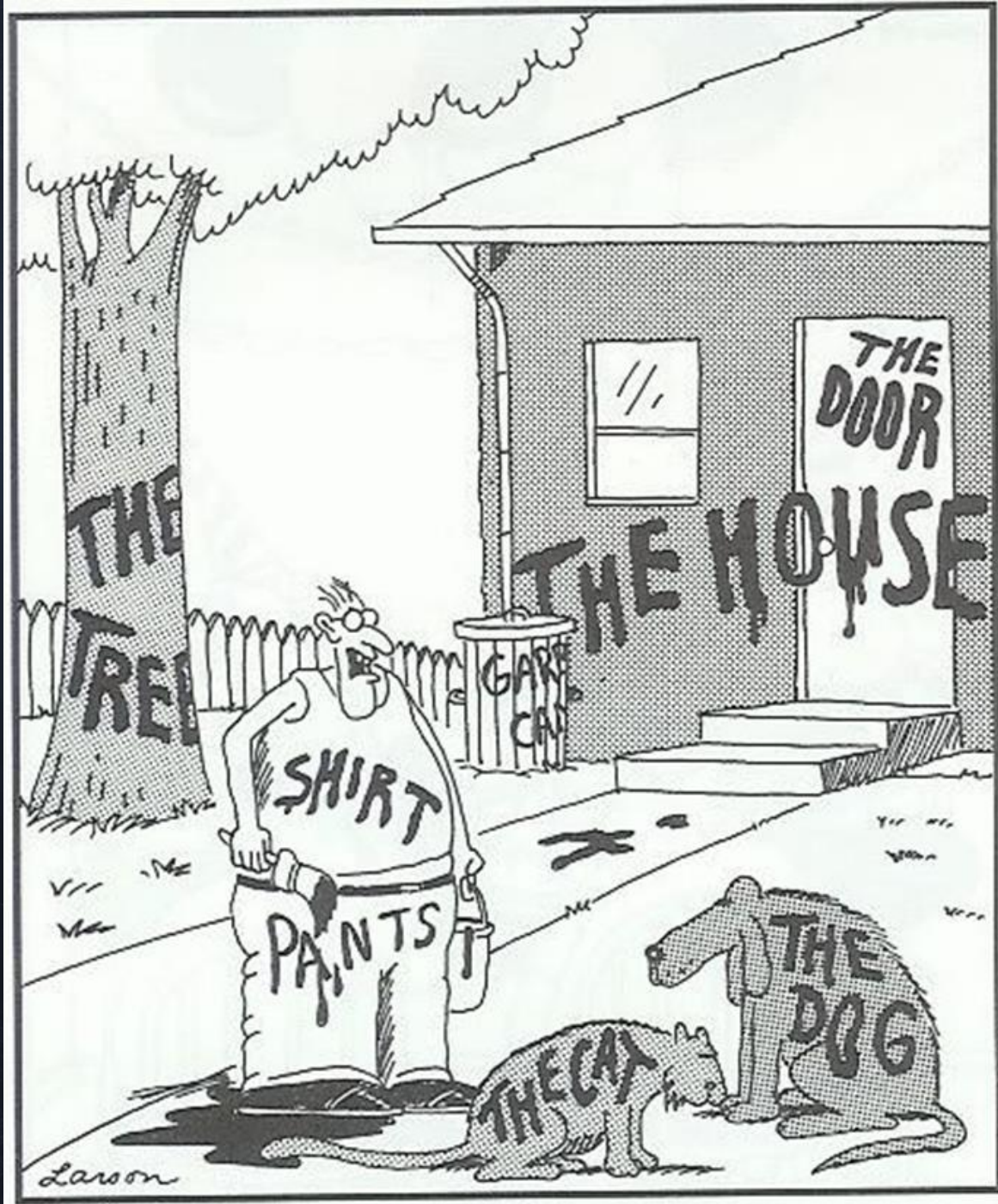


# Loving God No Matter What

*A Brief Look at  
the Story of Job*

# The Story of Job

- Job experienced total loss
- Job suffered intense physical pain
- Job wallowed in deep depression
  
- Job: “God is unjust (unfair/ fickle / arbitrary); He’s not in control; He’s indifferent; He’s uncaring / unloving”
  - “God is a *butcher* and *torturer*”



“Now! ... *That* should clear up a few things around here!”

## Chaps. 38-39 – God

- “Let’s clear up a few things around here”
  - Not to crush or belittle, but to *impart wisdom*
  - “Are you really as wise as you think?” (1-11)
    - See Prov. 8:22-31
    - Look for wisdom behind the examples
      - E.g. - *the sea* -> chaos, which God controls

## Chaps. 38-39 – God

- “Let’s clear up a few things around here”
  - “Have you ever in your life...” (38:12-39:30)
    - Water, dirt, planets, stars, animals, light, darkness, wisdom, death, ...
    - “Which of us is better qualified to rule the universe?”
      - All under His *loving, caring control*

## Chap. 40:1-5 – Job’s Response

- God: “What do you have to say now?”
- Job: “I am insignificant and have nothing more to say”
  - He was humbled by the wisdom, power, sovereignty, and majesty of God
  - However, he didn’t go far enough
  - So, God initiated *Round 2*...



## Chap. 40 – God

- “Are you qualified to judge Me?”
  - “Will you really annul My judgment?” (7-8)
  - “Can *you* humble the proud?” (9-14)
    - “You are quick to pass judgment; can you carry out the sentence?”
    - “Just as you are ignorant and incapable in the physical realm (chaps. 38-39), so you are in the moral”

## Chaps. 40-41 – God

- “Are you qualified to judge Me?”
  - “Can you handle Behemoth?” (40:15-24)
    - “I made him as well as you” (40:15)
    - “If you can’t subdue him...”
  - “Can you draw out Leviathan?” (41:1-34)
    - “Who then can stand before Me?” (41:8-11)
    - “He is king over all the sons of *pride*” (41:34)
      - “If you can’t subdue him...”

## Chaps. 40-41 – God

- The Friends + Elihu: “God is bigger and smarter than you, so don’t cross Him”
  - Like: “Because I’m the daddy, that’s why!”
- God: “I’m bigger and smarter than you, so just trust Me -- even when you don’t understand”
  - “Because I love you, that’s why”

# The Story of Job

- *God allowed* Job to experience total loss
- *God allowed* Job to suffer with physical pain
- *God allowed* Job to wallow in deep depression
  - To crush him? To torture him?
  - Or to reveal something to him?
- God is a surgeon / therapist

*GOD*

'BAD'

JOB



**GOD**

**'BAD'**

**JOB**

- How did Job respond?
  - Lament, complain
  - Long for the past
  - Question/impugn God
- Why?
  - Because this wasn't what *he* wanted

*GOD*

'BAD'

JOB

- How should Job have responded?
  - Humility, trust, *Fear*, hope

# Chap. 42 – Epilogue

- Then Job *repented* (2-6)
  - Of pride: thinking he was qualified to judge God's actions and motives
  - He never cursed God or lost faith (James 5:11)
- God called the 'friends' to repentance (7-9)
- God restored the fortunes of Job (10-17)
  - "The Lord gave..." again (see 1:21)



# So What?

- God cares what we believe & say about Him
  - “...so that I may not do to you according to your *folly*...” (42:8)
    - *Folly*: insensitive to God & morality; rejects the *fear of the Lord*; mind closed to reason
- Part of pursuing God is growing in our knowledge and understanding of Him
  - He is constantly trying to help us

# So What?

- Have you ever complained about your life?
  - “It wasn’t supposed to be this way!”
  - Why do we *grumble*?
    - “Do all things without grumbling or disputing” (Phil. 2:14-16; cf. 1 Cor. 10:10-13)
- What is the *Great Physician* exposing in your life?