

Confidence in God, Not Man

by Theodore Epp

The sermon emphasizes the importance of trusting in God rather than putting confidence in man, using Job's story as an example.

Scripture: Job 13:4

Topics: "Trust in God", "Suffering"

Description

Theodore Epp emphasizes Job's unwavering confidence in God amidst his suffering, as Job refuses to let his friends dictate his faith or understanding of his situation. He asserts his equality with them and expresses his deep resentment towards their unhelpful counsel, highlighting the bitterness that can arise in times of distress. Despite the torment from his friends' words, Job's declarations reveal profound truths about trusting God, even in the face of death. Epp challenges listeners to consider their own trust in God during trials, echoing Job's commitment to faith over human judgment.

Transcript

Job 13:4-15

As we read in Job 13, Job again spoke quite forcibly of his refusal to let his "friends" arbitrate his case for him. He declared he would take it to God himself.

Job brushed his "friends" aside and told them that what they knew he knew, that he was not a bit inferior to them.

It goes without saying that Job's words to his friends and some of their words to him are hardly patterns for believers to use. A great deal of bitterness was evident on both sides.

Job was suffering greatly in body and mind, and the discourses of Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar added torment to his already overburdened heart.

Job forcefully expressed his resentment against their unfair treatment. At times he "blew off steam," and yet intermingled with his strong words were often statements of remarkable truth concerning God.

From what we have already seen in chapter 13, Job stated that even if God were to kill him, he would trust Him. Would we be able to make such a statement in the midst of intense suffering?

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man" (Ps. 118:8).

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