

Job 26:1-4

Sunday 12/7/2003

We have our Bibles this morning. Let us turn again to Job chapter 26. As you know, we have started talking about the relationship that we have with the Word of God as far as our own personal walk with the Lord. In fact, we have been focusing on how to build a relationship with God. We have had so many young Christians that have been coming and trying to learn the Word of God that we just wanted to focus on Sunday for a while on really how to build that relationship. For all of us, those of us who have been saved for a long time, it is always important to go back and refocus on those great principles that we have to have because it is so easy to forget those. So that is what we have been doing.

We have been talking about the different aspects of probably the most important doctrine in all the Bible, the Judgment Seat of Christ, a judgment where every believer is going to stand before God. We talked about how the Bible contains seven different judgments. Yet three of those judgments are focused toward us. We talked about how that when we get saved, we are judged as a sinner, and that after we are saved, we are judged as a son. Then at the Judgment Seat of Christ, we are judged as a servant. So that is what we have been focusing on.

Now in Job chapter 26, we have been here now a number of weeks. We have been talking about some questions. We have focused on the fact that there are questions in the Bible, and the Bible being the Word of God and the inspired Word of God gives us questions that somebody has to answer. I have told you that when we come to Job chapter 26, what I believe, or what I am afraid is going to happen, is that when we stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ, these are the questions that God is going to ask us. We are going to be asked some questions pertaining to our service. All of these questions are not only the only ones that can be asked to Christians, but they are the only ones that really have an aspect as far as service is concerned. So we have been looking at that.

We talked about:

- How hast thou helped him that is without power? (a picture of an unsaved man)
- How savest thou the arm that hath no strength? (as Christians, we take young Christians and try to develop them; they have power, but they have no strength)
- How hast thou counseled him that hath no wisdom? (an unsaved man, or even a lot of God's people, do not have any wisdom about the principles of the Word of God)
- Last week we talked about: How hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?

So we are in Job chapter 26, and Job says here:

Job 26:1-4

But Job answered and said,

How hast thou helped him that is without power?

How savest thou the arm that hath no strength?

How hast thou counseled him that hath no wisdom?

And how hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?

To whom hast thou uttered words? and whose spirit came from thee?

Father, we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus. We love You. We ask You now today to give us wisdom and insight into Your Word. May we take these things and apply them to our hearts and to our lives, and may we stand, Father, fast in this dear old book, that we know that within it lies the principles of life, that we need to learn how to live our lives, to walk with God. Teach us, Lord, these great doctrines that form the foundation in our lives, that are the building blocks on which we build, as we build upon that foundation, gold, silver, and precious stone. We will thank You and praise You in Jesus' name, for His sake we ask it. Amen.

I. The Judgment Seat of Christ and Accountability for Words

Now the Bible says, and where we want to focus today is, "To whom hast thou uttered words?" I had a guy tell me one time, I preached this message all over the country over a number of years, and I had all kinds of different reactions to it. One guy came to me, and people who do not like the concept of the Judgment Seat of Christ, they are not going to like this message. I have had many, many people come to me and say, "Bob, I think you are totally off the wall, thinking those six questions are going to be at the Judgment Seat of Christ. I just think that you are absolutely way over the line here, that I do not believe that that is what it is all about. I do not believe that is what he is asking. I think he is just asking Job some questions, and I do not know that you can take that kind of liberty with the Bible. I do not really believe that that is what that is talking about."

My response to every one of those guys or gals, whatever the case may be, is simply this: "I am with you. I sure hope you are right. This is one of these places where you get no argument from me. I hope you are right. I hope that we do not have to face these questions. I hope the Judgment Seat of Christ is as easy as you perceive it to be. I hope that when we get there, it is just going to be a matter of a pat on the back or kicking the seat of the pants, and off you go. I hope it is that easy."

But I have a sneaking suspicion. I do not think it is going to be that easy. I do not think God put all those questions in the Bible just so He could say, "I have a lot of questions in My book." I believe that God demands answers. I told you when we started this, the first question that God asked in the Bible was, "Where was Adam at?" when God knew where he was at. I believe the first question in the Bible is, the devil says, "Did God really mean what He says?" Those two questions have been asked all down through history.

I believe that in the Bible, as I have already stated, there is a set of questions for everybody, no matter what your vocation is in life. When you stand before God as an unsaved man or a saved man, whatever you have decided to go, wherever you went in life, I believe that someday you are

going to be judged. When you are judged based on the Word of God and what God's plan was, I believe that some questions are going to come into play.

I have said it before, Job chapter 26, the only one I know that fits this criteria is a born-again, God-shouted, living in a day and age that we live in, what we call the church age. To me, this one about the words, "To whom hast thou uttered words," it really gets scary. This is where I confess to you, this one bothers me. Because if this thing is what it seems to be and everything that you read and see, did you ever go through your Bible? I do not know what you do when you read through the Bible, maybe you do not read your Bible. But if you read your Bible, when you are coming through it and just trying to read it and learn some things from it, there are things you need to pay attention to. That is how I got onto this question deal. I started reading through the Bible one day and I started saying, "Why does He ask that? Why does He ask that?"

Then I started looking in the Bible as I came through one time and I started to notice the emphasis the Bible puts on the things that we are to talk about. I do not know if you ever did that or not. When Paul wrote to Timothy in 1 and 2 Timothy, he is giving him some great advice from a pastor, an older man, to a young man who is trying to get into the ministry or trying to do what God wants him to do. He texts him greatly in that book about words that he is to say and words that he speaks.

He tells him that there are some words that are of no profit and we should not even use them.

2 Timothy 2:14

Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

He says in 1 Timothy 6, down around verse 3, he warns him about talking and not using words that are not wholesome words and not having wholesome language in what he says.

1 Timothy 6:3

If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

He admonishes him in 2 Timothy 1:13 to hold fast the sound words.

2 Timothy 1:13

Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

When I come through the Bible, in Ephesians 5, where it talks about the church, it talks about the fact that we are not to be foolish jesting and foolish talk and all that. Now that does not mean that you cannot have fun. It does not mean you cannot laugh. People get the idea when the Bible talks like this and starts saying this, that you just have to be so straight-laced that you cannot even smile. That is why a lot of God's people do not want to go to church because there are a lot of people there that never do smile. They are not happy. They think that Christianity is a straight confinement like a straitjacket, that you cannot laugh, you cannot tell a joke, you cannot have a

good time, you cannot laugh with people, you cannot laugh with yourself, you cannot laugh with somebody else, you cannot just have fun like we do. Of course, that is not what it is talking about here.

No, the Bible has a very clear doctrine in it about the fact that as believers, we need to understand what we talk about and understand the importance of what we talk about. It does not mean that you cannot laugh or have a good time. I will tell you something else, and I saw this, it does bother me. This whole thing bothers me. If he had just had five, I could have got away with it, and I would have felt better, but this one kills you. This thing about words, understanding if you get a little bit of insight into things and study a little stuff, the concept, did you ever notice the places in the Bible where God judges a man out of his own mouth? Boy, that is a wild thing.

There are places in the Bible where God clearly shows us that God goes to the man and has a confrontation with the man or talks to the man, and because the man has not done what is right, God asks the guy, and the guy gives Him a sham answer, and then God judges him out of that. I think of David. Nathan went into David and told him a story about a man that had taken some guy's little sheep. He was talking about David's own sin with Bathsheba, and he is talking his story how this man had all kinds of sheep, and he took one little sheep from this little guy over here, and David was enraged. David said, "I do not know who this guy is," but he says, "that man is going to pay back four sheep for that one." Nathan said, "Thou art the man." God judged David out of that. David says, "Fourfold, fourfold, fourfold." God says, "All right, I am going to judge you out of your own mouth." All four of David's boys got killed in the next three or four years. God judged him out of his mouth.

One time a guy came to Christ and the Bible says, there was a man that had five talents, and he did not do anything with them. When the Lord came, he said, "Lord, I knew You were a hard man and a steward man, and I just hid these things. I did not do anything with them." God turns his words right around and judges him by his own words. Time after time, when you start reading the Bible and you start seeing the situations in the Bible, out of their own mouth, God judges people. I am telling you something, we underestimate the power of words.

Proverbs 6:2

Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

In Proverbs 6:16, there are six things listed that God hates. I always talk about learning how to love the things that God loves and how to hate the things that God hates. If you want to find out what God hates, and the Bible says that the seventh is an abomination, there are six things that God hates. Three of them, out of the six, three of them have to do with something that you say.

- The first one He hates is a lying tongue.
- The second one He hates is a false witness, somebody that sets somebody up, lies about somebody for their own personal gain.
- The third one He hates is sowing discord among the brethren, trying to destroy a work of God by something that you say that is derogatory because you have a hidden agenda that you

want to hurt the work of God, whether it be your preacher, whether it be somebody else in your church, whatever the case.

Those three things are three of the six, and all three of those have to do with you speaking. You have to use words to lie. You have to use words to give a false witness, and you have to use words to sow discord.

II. The Power and Pervasiveness of Spoken Words

Words are powerful. That is why when the president makes a speech, he just does not get up and say off the cuff what he wants to say. Have you ever noticed that? He has probably four or five professional speechwriters that write for him. Do you know why? Because the news media is critiquing everything he says. He has to be politically correct. He has to say things that do not offend people. I will give you a case in point. The one guy that was running for president and talked about down south, and he said, "I want to reach out to all the people that drive pickup trucks and have Confederate flags in the back window." Now that is just a... Is that a big deal statement to anybody in here? I do not think it is a big deal statement. You go down south, that is what you see. But the news media got a hold of that. Somebody should have checked his deal. News media got a hold of that, saying this guy is a racist. He supports the Confederate Army, who enslaved all the black people, and wanted to keep slavery. He is a racist, making racist statements. The whole thing by the news media gets blown out of proportion. So they have to be very careful. Do you know why? Words are powerful.

You recognize you can make or break somebody's day by simply saying something. You have the power with words. That is why the Bible says, as Christians, we are to edify each other. It does not do me any good to point out all the things that are bad, that are wrong with people. What helps is to edify. What Christianity is, is being able to take and encourage each other. Use the words for encouragement, not for destruction. But people get so caught up because words are powerful. Words will make or break presidents. Words will make or break nations. That is why politics is so crucial in all the things that we do, that you want to send the right message. You hear it all the time, "We want to send the right message in what we say." When a president gets up or some of these guys get up that want to be president, and they talk into the media, and they talk about the people, and they always ask them, "What is your foreign policy? What is your domestic policy?" You have to be very careful because they are going to pick apart everything that you say because words will give the impression of one thing or the other.

I will tell you something, when the Lord comes down here and He asks the question, "To whom hast thou uttered words?" Do you ever stop and think about how many words that we use in a day? I saw a recent study, and I read a lot of psychological stuff because I have some psychological problems. I read a lot of studies, and a recent study said that a woman uses 5,000 words a day. A woman in her daily going about uses 5,000 words a day. A man uses 7,000 words a day. Where a woman, her daily talk, and talking on the phone, she will use 5,000 words. A man, he will use 7,000 words. Then a study went on to say that a man uses 7,000 words a day, but he uses 6,980 of them before he gets home. That is why we do not talk when we come home from work. We have used all of our words. We only have a few left. We have got to use them for

"go team" or something like that. So you have got to understand these things. Words are powerful. Words are powerful.

I do not know if you ever saw this movie or not. I like science fiction movies. I do not believe them, but I like the special effects. Sometimes they have some really good stuff that is in the Bible but just misapplied. One of my favorite scientific movies is the movie *Contact* with Jodie Foster. I think that is an incredible movie. Carl Sagan, it was dedicated to him, and he is an unsaved man and all that stuff. But he was fascinating to listen to some of the stuff that he talked about. If these guys would ever just sit down and let somebody talk to them about a Bible and show them how close they are but how far off they are, that is incredible.

But the thing about this movie I like the most, I did not care about when they found the life or she dropped through the deal, or she is out there and she is with her father. I am not caring about that. The beginning of the movie is incredible. The beginning of the movie starts like this. It shows down on Earth. You are hearing different radio broadcasts. Then it starts to pan back from the Earth. It starts to pan back from the Earth, and then you see it goes past the moon, and you can still hear. It is a combination of music, people talking, sports, football games, rock and roll. It keeps panning back. Now the Earth and you pass the moon. Then you go past Mars. Then you go past Jupiter. Then you go past Saturn. The Earth is getting smaller. It is like you are backing out. You can still hear all the people talking and all the different things that are going on. Then you hear a president give a speech. It keeps backing off. Pretty soon you are past the last planet. Then you go through that. I do not know if you know it or not, but it went through the Oort field. O-R-T. Oort field. Before it gets to the asteroid belt. You see all the little asteroids come through it. You can still hear the talking. Finally it keeps going farther. You cannot even see the Earth now. You cannot see the planet. Now you are moving at a faster rate. All of a sudden you start to see more nebulosity, gas around. Now you get farther back and begin to see our Milky Way, which is our galaxy, begin to form. It keeps coming back and coming back. You can still hear it, yet it is a little more garbled now. It is a little more not as defined. But you can still hear the different pieces. It just keeps moving back. Suddenly our whole galaxy comes into view. It keeps moving back. Suddenly you see another galaxy up here. Another galaxy back here. Another galaxy down here. It gets farther back. Pretty soon there are 20 galaxies. You can still hear the muffled sounds of the radio broadcast. It keeps going back and back and back and back and back and back. I think that is one of the most incredible pieces of science fiction technology I have ever seen or ever heard.

Do you know why? Because Einstein taught, and this is true, Einstein taught that sound never stops. He taught that when you say something, it goes out into space. It keeps moving. It never stops. Theoretically, he said, that if we got into a rocket ship and went fast enough and far enough, we could catch up with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and hear exactly what he said. Now, the reason why this is true is because this is why down in Virginia they have these big belts of radio telescopes with dishes on them the size of, and they are all linked together. All those guys do is send out a radio signal. In fact, that is what the movie *Contact* was all about. She is sitting down there sending out this little signal, "Take me to your leader. Have you had any pizza?" It is sending those things out. They go out there. They are waiting, listening there,

because we know we have sent our first radio waves out in the early 20s and the end of the 20s, early 30s. They are listening for somebody to pick up on the other end, to pick up the signal and then send a message back. That is what it is all about. Because Einstein was correct in this one thing: when you say something or you project sound, it goes and never stops. It is moving out into outer space. It never stops. It goes and goes and goes.

Now, I do not believe that there are any aliens out there that are going to find this. That is where it is off the track. I do not, but, and they get all kinds of weird ideas, and they send these radio signals out, and then they look for somebody to come back. In the movie, it was kind of a joke because the movie came back whenever this alien life found the radio thing, it was Adolf Hitler who was one of the first TV personalities, because that is where TV started when he did the 1933 Olympics. He went to the Star Vega, which was so many light years away, and it just got time to get there and come back. So when they answered, they answered with a radio broadcast, and here we are, our first emissary to the alien races out there is Adolf Hitler. What a great map that is. But the concept is true. The concept is that once you speak something, it just keeps going.

Now I am telling you something. I am not worried about the aliens finding it, but what if with the Judgment Seat of Christ, when we stand there before God, that that thing is all connected with God's program and God's plan? What if with the Judgment Seat of Christ, when you stand up there and you get ready to open your mouth of what you said and what you did to defend yourself, at about that time, every word you ever spoke in your life comes right across that thing? For the sake of putting it into our own concept, what if there is a category for the Chiefs football, your hunting and fishing experiences, your doing this and your doing that, and what you have talked about the Lord? What if everything we have said in all of our lives fills up those categories? I am telling you the power of words. Once you say something, it never stops and it keeps on going. That is the way that is. God has too many things in the Bible where the Bible says God judges us out of our own mouth.

We may, when we do something wrong, we are quick to err. We always have our own excuse. We always balance that thing from our perspective. You may be right, you may be wrong, but the bottom line is you are always going to give yourself the benefit of the doubt. Do you think it is going to be any different at the Judgment Seat of Christ? So God has to have something that just lays it bare out. What better is than what you have said? What better is and what better proof evidence is there in something that you have said right there? There is no question about it. It is all lined up. It is like when you go to the IRS and you kind of think, "Well, I get in my mind, I had this thing all worked out," and he puts the figures down and shows you you are about \$5,000 short on what you owe him. How do you argue with that? The figures are there. How do you argue about it? The words that you spoke are there.

I like to have fun like anybody else, and I have no problem at all. Absolutely no problem at all. But I am telling you, at the end of the day, I make sure that whatever I do, I talk more about the things of God than I do anything else in my life. I like to do a lot of things and I like to talk to people, but the bottom line is, there is nothing worse, there is nothing worth talking about more than God in this life.

III. Understanding God's Perspective in Life and History

Thursday night, we have been studying the book of Ecclesiastes, and last week we kind of got into the philosophies. What a great thing that has been. We will probably finish him up this next Thursday. But one of the things that I gave you, and I will harp on this the rest of your life, and that is that aspect about facts, knowledge, and understanding. I told you that facts are just the amassing of facts. Wisdom is facts applied. But understanding is understanding how God fits into the scheme.

You will find unsaved people and you will find God's people that have facts and they have understanding or they have wisdom, but they do not have understanding. They understand a lot of things about this and they understand a lot of things about that. That is wisdom. But they do not understand how God fits into the scheme of things, how God overall looks at it and how it fits into the Word of God and the plan of God. I am telling you, I find people all the time that do not understand the concept of words and how God, and where God is at and what God is thinking. I see it in everything. I see it, listen to what people say. Listen to how they talk. Watch what they do.

I believe, I will give you an example. I see it every time I watch a football game. The guy will go out there and he will make a spectacular play. He will make a touchdown or he will do something. I am not fighting anybody, but they will get on their knees and they will thank God for the touchdown. Or they will point toward heaven. If you interview them afterwards, somebody will say, "Well," and the newscasters cut them off right now. As long as you give credit to the coach and all this stuff, you are fine. The moment you say, "Well, I want to thank the Lord Jesus Christ, my own personal Savior," you are after the thing. "Man, get somebody else on. Get the beer commercials on or something like that." But then they will stand there and say, "Well, I want to thank the Lord Jesus Christ for saving me and giving me the ability to make that touchdown."

Hey, I am thankful that you are saved. I really am. But let me just ask you a question. Do you really think God cares who wins a football game? Do not answer that. If you think that God is up there saying to Gabriel, "Did you get the scores this week? We want to see what is going on." You think God is looking over there and saying, "Well, tell you what, they need a little help. Put a little wind to this guy's back, block that field goal, or give this guy just a little bit more ability. He can go out there and attack." Do you think God does that? Do you think God gives a flip? Do not answer that. If you do, you really think that God is concerned about the fact that there are two football players down here and one going to the Super Bowl, and God with... Do you really think He cares who goes to the Super Bowl? Do not answer that. Do you really think He is concerned about who wins the World Series? Please do not even nod your head. I do not want you to incriminate yourself because if you do...

When a guy stands down there and says, "Well, I want to thank the Lord Jesus Christ for saving my soul," I am all for that. Do you know what that man has got? That man has knowledge. He knows about God. That man has wisdom. He knows how God saved him. But when he makes his next statement and says, "And I want to thank God for giving me the ability to win this ballgame

and crank this touchdown," he does not have any understanding because I promise you, at the Judgment Seat of Christ, it is not going to be, "How many touchdowns did you make? Did you win the Super Bowl?" If you think that God is even remotely concerned, I told you the first Thursday night how it all works. I will sit down with you anytime and walk you through history. We look at history and we think that, "Oh, God is interested in this and God is interested in that." God is only concerned in one thing in history, only one thing. God is concerned about one thing.

Go back to Isaiah, Jeremiah, Book of Ezekiel, and you will find a hundred verses telling you that God does not give a flip about the Gentile nations. They are a drop in the bucket to Him. He could care less about America, even when it relates to the Word of God. He could care less about, we look at World War I and World War II, and we think, "Wow, wow, wow, look at this, man." I have studied, I like history. So I studied the wars, and I like military history. Here is World War I, World War I down here, we fought the Axis, and in World War II, we fought them again, and all these things, and you learn all the, Kaiser Wilhelm, and the Red Baron, and John Pershing, and World War II, MacArthur and Patton, and all the generals and all the battles and all the wars. You can open up a map and say, "Yeah, back in the Battle of the Argonne, they fought this way," and, "Oh, we hear that and this did this and that." You have facts and you have wisdom, but you do not have any understanding unless you see God.

I told you that night, World War I got the land ready for the Jew, World War II got the Jew ready for the land, and in 1948 they became a nation. God killed 275 million people without even blinking an eye to accomplish that. Everybody says, "Oh, the concentration camps with the Jews are terrible," and all that Adolf Hitler did. Let me tell you something, God, every time that Jew reads the last book in his Bible, he is told to go back. 2 Chronicles 36, he would not go back. He went into Europe, and when nobody had any money in Europe and there was a depression in Europe, and it took 20 billion Reichsmarks to buy a loaf of bread, and the Germans were starving to death and everybody was out of work, the Jew had enough money to buy up land, buy up shops, while they were even putting gold, they had gold to put in their teeth. How do you know that? Because when Adolf Hitler killed millions of them, he made billions and billions of dollars pulling gold out of dead people's teeth. They had money for gold in their teeth when your people have money for bread.

Do you know why? Because God said to that Jew, "You will be the bush, it will be burned but not be consumed." God built in them the ability to stay alive and the ability, but God said, "Go back, go back, go back." The Jew says, "I am not going back." God says, "We will see about that." By the time Hitler and the rest of them were done with them, they went back, and history was made in 1948 when Israel became a nation for 3,000 years. They had not been a nation. Their odds against them becoming a nation were so astronomically out. They were a miracle of God, and God says, "They are going to become a nation again." In a process of, we look at this and we say, "God bless America," and all this, and "God is going to take care of this and God is going to take care of that," and "God is on our side."

In World War II, America thought God was on their side. The Germans thought He was on their side. Every German buckled in any Wehrmacht guy ever wore had a little motto on it that said, "God is with us." They thought God was with them. We thought God was with us. Turns out we

were both wrong. God was with the Jew. You have to go back to that Old Testament and find out that God uses Gentile nations to accomplish His purpose, and His purpose is Israel. A lot of people have facts. A lot of people have wisdom. They do not have understanding. Understanding will always be the key ingredient. What is God doing in the middle of this war, in the middle of this history, in the middle of this country, in the middle of this revolution? That is understanding. When you understand that, you realize that history revolves around this book. When you understand that, you realize there is not anything that you say. The Bible says that every man will give every account for every word he says.

I have no problem in having fun. I do not. But I am telling you at the end of the day, you better find out what God is really interested in and start talking about it. At the same time, I did not say He did not watch the game today. I did not say He did not cheer. I did not say, "Well, you did not go over to your friend's house and have fun, have a cookout, have a barbecue." I did not say, "Go to the game and tailgate, have fun." I did not say you cannot do all of that stuff. I am not saying do not do it. I am just saying get understanding in what you do. Do not get caught up in it. Do not think that God really cares that the Chiefs win today. I care. I am glad Kansas won last night. I do not really care about college football, but everybody was just saying, "They are going to get blown up by Oklahoma. They are going to get wiped out." When somebody starts talking like that, I just like to see them get beat. I am always for the little guy. Some big bully starts picking on some little guy. He may beat me up too. We will go down swinging together. I do not like bullies. I do not like people to pick on little people. I am a little guy. I was taller before I got sick, but that happened a long time ago, and now I am where I am at. I am a little guy. I do not like being picked on. I do not like anybody else picking on anybody else. I think when somebody is vulnerable and somebody is hurting and for somebody to work them over, I think this thing stinks.

So I am always, I do not really, but that is me, you see. That is me. I sat there last night and I was thinking, "Man, go," and they were already like 35 to 7, and they were down at the 10-yard line, and I was saying, "Get one more. Go get one more touchdown. Rub their nose in the poo-poo, boy, and let them know that they have been to Kansas, home of Dorothy and Toto. Let them know, man, that the Wizard of Oz is still alive and you are in trouble." But I do not know anything about KU. I mean, it was K-State. I do not know who, I do not know which one it was. I do not know anything about Oklahoma. I just know it is south someplace and there is Indian down there. I do not really care. I just did not want to see the little guy that everybody was saying, "Ah, we are going to be with you." I wanted to see the little guy beat the big guy. I have been that way ever since I read the story of David and Goliath. There is a big old boy going to come down there and beat up Israel, and God picks a little scrawny guy out of there, boy, and goes out that brook and picks up five stones and goes out. Did you ever wonder why he picked up five stones for one man? Somebody said one time, "Well, it is because David had a lack of faith in God. He might miss." No, no, no, no. Read your Bible. Because Goliath had four brothers. David just felt he wanted to make this a family affair. We go four for four, five for five. I like that.

I am going to tell you something. I learned a lot. It is not the size of the dog in the fight. It is the size of the fight in the dog. I am telling you, I do not care who won. That is me. I wanted him to win. Do you think God was up there last night biting His fingernails off wanting Kansas to win? Do you think God is waiting with anxious anticipation for the Chiefs game in Denver today? Do you think He is even interested? Do you think He is even going to tune it in? You see, you have to have understanding. Therefore, when you have understanding, you enjoy those things, but they do not dominate my life. There are some people that all they can talk about is sports all day long. All I can do is talk about the Bible all day long. Somebody says to me, "Well, I sure hate to ask all these questions about the Bible." I really do that in the world. I talk to people when they need to see me all day long with the Bible. We come here and have Bible study. I have a Bible study on Thursday, three hours in the afternoon. Come here and do one, two hours at night with you, and then go home and do another one, two and a half hours before I go to bed. I am done at two o'clock, one o'clock in the morning sometime. I love it. I love it. I love it. I love it. I do not just love it because I love the Bible. I love it too because I know someday, I believe in my own heart, I hope I am wrong, but I do not think I am. I believe that someday, those things are going to come up and those things are going to get filled up, and how much you talked about the Chiefs, how much about fishing, how much you talked about this, how much about that, all will be compared to how much you talked about the Lord because as a Christian, that is where we are supposed to be.

IV. God's Miraculous Power and Accountability

I will tell you something else. I know I am kind of weird when it comes to the Bible, but I just believe it. I take this thing serious. We always think we are all the same. I believe the Bible says in Isaiah 55, when the Lord comes back, the Bible says the trees are going to clap their hands and sing. Somebody says, "Well, I do not believe that." I do. They do not even have hands. They have limbs. You just never heard one sing. They have nothing to sing about yet, but do you not know what Romans chapter 1, Romans chapter 2, Romans chapter 3 says that the creation is bearing the curse just like we are? Anyway, when this whole earth gets liberated, it is going to be a wild time. A lot of things are going to happen.

Let me ask you a question.

Numbers 22:30

And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.

The Bible says that Balaam was riding on an ass going someplace to hurt the nation of Israel, and God opened that ass's mouth and that ass spoke. Do you believe that? Do you believe that? Do you believe that old ass said, "Hey, what are you hitting me for? I am trying to help you out." Do you believe that? I believe that. I believe it is true. I believe it is absolutely true.

I will tell you something else. We think we are going to get away with stuff. We think that we can hide all kinds of stuff. Joshua chapter 24 says, this is scary.

Joshua 24:26-27

And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the Lord.

And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.

They are out there talking back and forth and the nation of Israel says, "We are going to do this and we are going to do this and we are going to do that." Joshua says, "Okay, no problem. God will take you at your word and God will hold you accountable." Do you know why? Because the rocks, the rocks right here just heard what you said and someday they will be a witness against you. Now, what are you going to do with that? I know what I would like to do with it. I would like to move on and talk about the lovingkindness of God. Somebody says, "That is stupid. I do not believe that. I do not even buy that." Hey, I am with you.

But I want to tell you this also. In 2 Kings chapter 7 verse 2, God said one time, "You know what? There are windows in heaven and I am going to open up those windows and I am going to bring something down," and a man laughed. God judged him out of his own mouth and killed him because there were windows in heaven.

2 Kings 7:2

Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

Genesis chapter 8 verse 2 says there is, there is also a door.

Genesis 8:2

The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;

John chapter 10, which somebody opens and goes up and goes through.

John 10:9

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Well, we do not have time to get into that today. Words.

I never say a lot about money and giving. I never do. Because I tell you when we get the offering, you know what your responsibility is. You want to not do it. That is fine. But let me just take it one step further. I really hate this one. Did you ever see money? Now money is a necessity. But did you ever realize that I do not care where you go in history, I do not care what culture, I do not care what country, you realize that every piece of money you ever saw in your world had a person's face or a person's head on it? If God could make the trees clap their hands

and sing, if God could make Balaam's ass talk, if God could make or use the rocks that heard what somebody said be a witness, if God could do all of that, and if it is true that once you say something, it goes on forever and ever, what is to say at the Judgment Seat of Christ, every dime, every nickel, every dollar, everything you ever had in your life come rolling down at your feet? What if it finds out at the Judgment Seat of Christ for the work of God and the ministry of God, you spent more money on dog food than you did the work of God? What if that thing rolls down at your feet and every piece of mouth on every piece of dollar bill opens its mouth and says what it was spent for?

It is no wonder the Bible says the Judgment Seat of Christ is the terror of the Lord. It is not the terror of the Lord in a sense you are going to have to worry about dying and going to hell. But it is the terror of the Lord in the fact that that thing is going to be a day that is going to reveal what man has done with God since he has been saved. It is not going to be a matter of, right now you can lie about it, right now you can make it up, right now you can tell me or your friend or your wife or your husband any story you want. But there is coming a day where you are not going to have to say a thing. Every word you ever said is going to show right now. Every dime you ever had is going to roll down at your feet. Every rock you ever was around whenever you did whatever you wanted to do is going to scream out and tell the witness, if it did not take care of before the blood of Christ. That is why the Bible says if we have sin in our lives, we confess it and get it right. Get it out of the way because if you do not, it is going to show up someplace else with your service.

Somebody said, "Well, I do not know." God, I am going to tell you right now, God can do whatever He wants to do. Do you want something really hard that God did? Joshua chapter 10. Joshua was fighting the battle. Joshua was fighting the battle and the sun was going down. Joshua says to the Lord, "We need to finish this battle before nighttime." The Lord says, "No problem." Do you know what the Lord did? He stopped the earth's rotation. He stopped the earth's rotation for 23 hours and 20 minutes. The earth stopped rotating. You say, "I do not believe that." Well, you need to go talk to Professor Totten at Yale in 1895. Do you know what he found out? He found out when he mathematically began to calculate everything back the way they can do it. He found out that in our time and our history there are 24 hours missing that nobody can account for. Now that is not from some crazy me. That is from a professor at Yale, Professor Totten in 1889, 1969, something like that, mathematically figured up the time elements going back through history and said, "From what we have got, what we figure here, from the chronologies we have, we are 24 hours missing."

Do you know what those 24 hours are? Well, 23 hours and 20 minutes is right here in Joshua 10.

Joshua 10:12-13

Then spake Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

Then you go over there in 2 Kings chapter 20 verse 9. The old guy down here says, "Well, Lord, I believe what You are saying, but I need proof. I need proof." God says, "Proof? How about if I make the sundial go forward?" He said, "No," he said, "nothing is going to go forward." He said, "It would be a real deal if he could make it go back." God said, "No problem," and the sundial went back 40 minutes, 10 degrees, 40 minutes on the sundial, 40 minutes.

2 Kings 20:9-11

And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay; but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

23 hours and 20 minutes in Joshua chapter 10, 40 minutes in 2 Kings chapter 20, there are your 24 missing hours. You see, God does whatever He wants to do. God does what He wants to do.

V. Conclusion: Forewarning and Preparation for Judgment

I am telling you, questions in the Bible are there for a reason. I am telling you, somebody is going to answer those questions, and I am telling you, there is a reason why God says, "To whom hast thou uttered words?" There is going to be an accountability. I am not saying you have to be a monk and only talk about the things of God. I am not saying that at all. I am saying in your life you need to have understanding. A lot of God's people have knowledge, they have wisdom, but they do not understand where God figures into the scheme. They do not know where they are at or they do not understand the urgency of the outcome. They do not understand what God is doing.

The Bible says in Ecclesiastes chapter 12:

Ecclesiastes 12:14

For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

And that day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel in Romans chapter 2.

Romans 2:16

In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Six questions. Six questions.

- How hast thou helped him that is without power?
- How savest thou the arm that hath no strength?
- How hast thou counseled him that hath no wisdom?
- How hast thou plentifully declared the thing as it is?
- To whom hast thou uttered words?

I am just telling you, my job is to forewarn you, and forewarning you is forearming you. I am telling you. I am giving you the cheat sheet. I am giving you the questions for the test before you have to take it. I am telling you, if somebody is out there and says, "Well, I do not buy that, Bob, I do not believe it," I absolutely wholeheartedly will take you out to lunch. I am with you. I will powwow with you hoping you are right. But I do not think you are because God would not put His Son through what He went through and God would not allow Him to endure what He endured and just let you and I skate through the Judgment Seat of Christ with a ho-hum attitude. I do not believe that.

When I look back and I see all the things that God does and I see all the things that God accomplishes and I see man today misplacing God and thinking God cares about the football games and the baseball games and God cares about the weather and God cares about my golf game and "God give me a good batting average this year that I may win millions of dollars so I can give You five of it," all this stuff that God does not care. God is concerned with His plan and His plan is very clear. The bottom line is the questions He asks are all concerning that plan. My job is to teach you that plan. My job is to prepare you for that plan. My job is to help you get you to the point in your life where you understand where you are at in your relationship with God. I just do not want to give you a lot of facts. I do not want to help develop those facts into wisdom. I want you to walk through life understanding where God is at in everything that you do. Right now as we are speaking, as we are ending our morning, you need to understand where God is at in these six questions pertaining to the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Let us pray. Father, we thank You and praise You for all You do. We love You. We thank You, Father, for the time we have had in Your Word today. Bless us, Lord. Give us wisdom and insight into all that You do for us. Help us, Lord, to see and understand this great book, its magnitude, its unbelievable power. Lord, help us to realize that there is not a question in that Bible that God is not going to require somebody to answer. Help us be faithful, Lord, in the job. Help us to realize why God saved us. Help us to realize what God wants us to do with our lives. Help us to work together as a team, to throw off all the things of the world, to be bounded together in the Word of God and in the love of Christ to do those things that God would have us to do. We will thank You and praise You in Jesus' name. For His sake we ask it. Amen.