DEVOTED TO GOD

Job 25-27

Let's look at and learn from Job's enduring devotion to God

I. **OUR DELIGHT:** Focusing on the Creator (26:5-14)

A. HOW WONDERFUL! (5-13)

- 1. The Depths (5-6)
 - The grave and death are comprehended by God
- 2. The Heights (7-10)
 - The sky and horizon are contained by God
- 3. The Earth (11-13)
 - The mountains, seas and winds are controlled by God

B. HOW UNFATHOMABLE! (14)

- 1. God's Ways
 - "These examples are only the extremities or outlines of God's actions." (Roy Zuck, "Job," Moody Press, 1978, p. 119)
- 2. God's Whisper
 - God is so remote that all we really hear is a faint whisper of all He has to tell us
- 3. God's Works
 - Thunder lets us know that God is there but not completely understood

C. HOW ENJOYABLE!

- 1. God's Canvas: The world as His work of art
- 2. God's Communication: The heavens declare His glory Psalm 19:1
- 3. God's Creativity Psalm 104

II. **OUR DETERMINATION: Maintaining Personal Godliness** (27:1-6)

A. THE DECLARATION OF AN OATH (2-3)

- 1. As God lives (2)
- 2. As long as I live (3)

B. THE DETAILS OF THIS OATH (4-6)

- 1. Honesty (4)
- a. No unjust or deceitful words
- b. No slander, gossip or lying See Psalm 120:2
- 2. Integrity (5)
- a. Not conceding to those who would condemn us
- b. Committed to godly character
 - Discipline is required Note Psalm 119:9-16 and I Cor. 9:24-27

- 3. Tenacity (6a)
- a. Clinging to one's righteousness
 - See Gen. 39:6-13; Daniel 1:8 and 3:13-18
- b. Holding onto godliness but not arrogance
- 4. Sincerity (6b)
- a. Living with a clear conscience See Paul's ambition in Acts 24:16
- b. This requires confession of known sin Psalm 139:23-24

III. **OUR DUTY: Instructing the uninformed** (27:7-23 with 25:1-26:4)

A. THE NATURE OF THE UNINFORMED (25:1-26:4 with 27:7-23)

- 1. Pessimistic (25:1-6)
- a. An awesome God sees only an awful man (4)
- b. God's mightiness only reveals man's maggot-ness! (5-6)
- 2. Unhelpful (26:1-4)
 - Providing no strength (2), wisdom (3) or encouragement (4)
- 3. Condemnable (27:7)
 - Because they are the enemy and opponent of the godly Note Acts 13:8-11
- 4. Hopeless (27:8-10)
 - In death (8), distress (9) and discouragement (10)
- 5. Foolish (27:13-23)
 - They are wrong about death (13-15), wealth (16-19) and judgement (20-23)

B. THE NURTURE OF THE INSTRUCTOR (27:11-12)

- 1. Communicate the power of God (11a)
 - Illustrated by Paul at Athens in Acts 17:22-28
- 2. Reveal the person of God (11b)
 - As Peter's preaching at Pentecost did Acts 2:14-36
- 3. Focus on the presence of God (12a)
 - Teach what they stubbornly refuse admit about God See Rom. 1:18-20
- 4. Offer a probe from God (12b)
 - Aren't you tired of being empty? See John 4:13-18

CONCLUSION:

Are you devoted to God?

Consider the answer to these three questions then draw your own conclusions.

- 1. Does the Creator and His creation thrill you? (26:5-14)
- 2. Does godly character describe you? (27:1-6)
- 3. Does teaching the ignorant inspire you? (27:7-23 with 25:1-26:4)