

MESSAGE NOTES

God's Questions

Where Were You When I Laid the Earth's Foundation

Job 38:1-11 (NIV)

¹ Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

² "Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?"

³ Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

⁴ "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶ On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone—

⁷ while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?

⁸ "Who shut up the sea behind doors
when it burst forth from the womb,

⁹ when I made the clouds its garment
and wrapped it in thick darkness,

¹⁰ when I fixed limits for it
and set its doors and bars in place,

¹¹ when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther;
here is where your proud waves halt'?"

NOTES:

The Question

Why do good people suffer?

Silence

The right response to suffering is often silence.

"The human soul does not want to be advised or fixed or saved. It simply wants to be witnessed." Parker J. Palmer

Wrestling

God meets Job in the whirlwind. Some of the most defining moments of our lives happen in the midst of the struggle.

Faith is not the absence of struggle; it is the act of contending.

The Last Word

"I admit I once lived by rumors of you; now I have it all firsthand from my own eyes and ears... I'll never again live on crusts of hearsay, crumbs of rumor." Job 42:5-6 (The Message)

Mary

"I am the Lord's servant." Luke 1:38

Jesus

"Yet not my will, but yours be done." Luke 22:42

The journey of Job is not a movement from questions to answers, but a transformation from hearsay to a direct encounter.

NOTES: