

SERMON NOTES 3/21/26



God's presence is with us. He never leaves or nor forsakes us. Peace in repentance is to turn away from any idea that we are separate from God or that God is far away. He is with us and all around us and we are never alone!

1. In **Job 42**, Job comes to the understanding that God was all around Him and this brought Job comfort, even though he still did not understand all that had happened. He held the glory of God and presence of God to a higher standard compared to his circumstances. When we trust in God, we are led out of the thinking that hold us back because we do not predicate trusting God with having to understand God (**Proverbs 3:5-6**).
2. Job says that his new understanding of God's nearness was seeing God face to face rather than simply knowing things about God. Face to Face is not about seeing a fleshly face of God. Face (Hebrew "panim", Greek - "prospon") means presence, not flesh. A face to face encounter with God is a revelation of the encounter of His presence. This brings us into a deeper peace because we no longer hope to encounter God, we open our eyes to the truth that our life is always a part of an encounter if we would receive that apart from our understanding.
3. Job repents - taking back everything he said to a degree that all that he said exited his being. True repentance is not a cycle of "I'm sorry". It is choosing to deny yourself in such a way that all false identity and truth leaves from you, so that you will never go backwards into what you have repented from.
4. Repentance in this passage talks about a turn around. Sometimes the biggest thing we need to repent from is the way we see God, seeing Him near rather than far. When we receive the revelation of His nearness, we will sacrifice our need to understand all things and walk in faith, hand in hand, with God.
5. God rebukes Job's 3 friends, has them sacrifice things before Job, and has Job pray for them so they are forgiven. Job has not received any restoration of things lost, but Job is no longer concerned with his loss, because He is now having peace that God is with Him. His ability to mediate on behalf of God was automatic after repentance. Repentance invites you to get back in step with God automatically, not by earning.
6. Job does receive blessings. He gets more in this half of life than he had before, he lived a long life, and he enjoyed a "full" life. In other words, Satan's plans to destroy Job failed. And the key to this restoration of all things lost was a simple understanding that all Job needed was fellowship with God. Repentance brings you close with God that produces peace without the need to understand the why behind all things.