

# Where is God, Day by Day?

- A. This question is sometimes answered with one of two extremes:
1. God does not interact with his creation at \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. God has a hand in every \_\_\_\_\_, working in the smallest and most mundane of situations.
- B. What can we learn from God's revelation that might help us answer this question faithfully?

## I. "Who \_\_\_\_\_?"

- A. Mordecai to Esther (*Est 4:12-14*) - "**who knows** whether you have not come...for such a time?"
- B. David (*2 Sam 12:14-23*) - "**who knows** whether the LORD will be gracious to me?"
- C. Joel (*Joel 2:12-14*) - "**who knows** whether he will not turn and relent?"
- D. The king of Nineveh (*Jonah 3:4-9*) - "**who knows?** God may turn and relent"

## II. "\_\_\_\_\_ " and "Maybe"

- A. Moses after the golden calf (*Exo 32:30*) - "**perhaps** I can make atonement for your sin"
- B. Amos (*Amos 5:15*) - "**it may be** that the LORD...will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph"
- C. Zephaniah (*Zeph 2:3*) - "**perhaps** you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the LORD"
- D. Caleb (*Josh 14:12*) - "**it may be** that the LORD will be with me, and I shall drive them out"
- E. Jonathan (*1 Sam 14:6*) - "**it may be** that the LORD will work for us"
- F. Paul to Philemon (*Phlm 15-16*) - "for this **perhaps** is why he was parted from you for a while"

## III. \_\_\_\_\_ and the Benefit of Decades' Worth of Hindsight

- A. Expresses great confidence in God and what he had been doing (*Gen 45:5-8; 50:20*)
- B. What we are **not** told is *when* Joseph reached this conclusion
- C. We do know that Joseph had reached the point that he celebrates forgetting his family (*Gen 41:51*)

## IV. Conclusions

- A. When it comes to our perspective, there are the extremes, and then there is the Bible
  1. Joseph allows for human evil while showing that God can control the ultimate outcome
  2. Job acknowledges the working of Satan while demonstrating that God remains sovereign
  3. The Preacher teaches that there is "time and chance" (*Eccl 9:11*) while affirming that "the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God" (*Eccl 9:1*).
- B. How should we think and talk and live in this light?
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ God's presence, his reign, and heart (*Dan 4:17; Psa 119:68*)
  2. Look for \_\_\_\_\_ to serve and glorify him (*Dan 3:16-18*)
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ to speak for God (*Eccl 5:2*)
  4. Walk by \_\_\_\_\_, not by sight (*2 Cor 5:6-10*)