

Advising the Surgeon

Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm.

He said: “Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge?

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

“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?

Tell me, if you understand.

Job 38:1-4 (NIV)

Many people in the western world have needed surgery and proceeded with the operation(s) to correct the medical issue. We are certainly thankful for the surgeons and their skill in the operating room.

What would you think of the patient who decided to advise the surgeon on how to operate, the instruments to use, what suturing material to use and so on? The idea of a layman telling the professional how to do their job is ridiculous. I do not think that any of my readers has ever offered advice to a doctor on how to operate on them.

Our bodies are far too complex a living thing for the untrained to pretend they know how to correct medical problems. That is why we go to the doctor—because we have a need that we do not fully understand and we require advice and help from the expert.

Keeping that illustration in mind—what does it say about us if we think we can comment on how to run something infinitely more complex than the

human body? Why do we submit to a medical expert about our health issues but think we know how to run the entire universe?

Running the universe and everything in it requires wisdom incredibly greater than ours. This is the point God makes with Job and his foolish comforters. God asks where Job was when He created everything. Did God need Job’s help to design the universe? Did God require Job’s strength to put everything in place? Of course not.

God got everything going with no help from anyone. So when we think we can give God advice on changing this or that in His world, we ought to show some modesty. We certainly may come and ask for a change in our situation. We ought to pray for healing from disease, for peace in the world, for all of the things that would enrich the lives of people.

Where we go wrong is not in asking for things to be different, but in demanding that God organize His world according to what we think is right and fair.

There is a world of difference between asking and demanding.

Pain can cloud our thinking and cause us to believe that we are better able to run things than God. Do come to the Lord and ask for what you desire in life.

He is able to bless and strengthen you for anything life offers. But remember that when your heavenly Father does not give you certain things He has His reasons and you do well to submit humbly to His will. Begin asking for grace to accept the issue whatever it is. The Lord shall hear you and grant your request. Come to Him and come today.

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