

“HIDE AND SEEK”
JOB 23:1-9, 16-17
OCTOBER 10, 2021

Introduction

The first round of hide and seek was a _____ one.

Genesis 3:6-8 - So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

The second round finds God _____.

Isaiah 45:15 - Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior.

Psalm 30:7 - By your favor, O Lord, you made my mountain stand strong; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

“God hides in order not to be found where humans want to find God. But God hides in order to be found where God wills to be found.” – Martin Luther

Job 23:1-5, 8-10 (NLT) - Then Job spoke again: “My complaint today is still a bitter one, and I try hard not to groan aloud. If only I knew where to find God, I would go to his court. I would lay out my case and present my arguments. Then I would listen to his reply and understand what he says to me...I go east, but he is not there. I go west, but I cannot find him. I do not see him in the north, for he is hidden. I look to the south, but he is concealed. “But he knows where I am going. And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold.

God has three hiding places:

a. He hides behind the question _____.

Psalm 88:13-14 - But I, O Lord, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you. O Lord, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me?

John 9:2-3 - And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

b. He hides in the Word _____.

John 1:14 - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 5:39 - You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

c. He hides in _____.

Proverbs 25:2a - It is the glory of God to conceal things.

Matthew 25:36 - I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’

Luke 2:12 - And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

“Instead of coming in uncovered majesty when He gives a gift to man, God places a mask before His face. He clothes Himself in the form of an ordinary man.” – Martin Luther

Job 42:8 - Offer up a burnt offering for yourselves. And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.”

Conclusion

Job 23:15-17 - Therefore I am terrified at his presence; when I consider, I am in dread of him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; yet I am not silenced because of the darkness, nor because thick darkness covers my face.