"Our Faithfulness Never Puts Demands on God"
Job 31:1-40
Sept. 21, 2025

I. Job's Final Defense

A. "I've been faithful – inside and out – for all of my days."

B. "May I be treated as the *wicked* if that's not true. But it *is* true, and I can *prove* it!"

C. "God is *unfairly* treating me like the wicked anyways."

II. Evaluating Job's Final Defense

A. There's no indication that Job had fallen into variations of Pharisaical self-righteousness.

B. There's also little indication that Job believed God owed him *lavish* blessing for his faithfulness.

C. However, Job appears to have committed two errors:

1. Believing God owed him a *trial-free life*, and/or…

2. Believing God owed him an *explanation* for his current trials given how faithful he'd been.

III. Applying Job's Final Defense

A. We are called by the Lord to the same levels of holiness (and beyond!) that Job aspired to.

B. However, success in holiness, no matter how great, never entitles us to a trial-free earthly life.

C. We should flee from self-righteousness by acknowledging that success in one area of holiness is often joined by failure in others.

D. Let us be thankful for Christ's truly perfect record now counted as ours.