



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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July 2021,

Dear Friends,

40 Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said,² Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.³ Then Job answered the LORD, and said,⁴ Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.⁵ Once have I spoken; but I will not answer: yea, twice; but I will proceed no further.⁶ Then answered the LORD unto Job out of the whirlwind, and said,⁷ Gird up thy loins now like a man: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.⁸ Wilt thou also disannul my judgment? wilt thou condemn me, that thou mayest be righteous?⁹ Hast thou an arm like God? or canst thou thunder with a voice like him?¹⁰ Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty.¹¹ Cast abroad the rage of thy wrath: and behold every one that is proud, and abase him.¹² Look on every one that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked in their place.¹³ Hide them in the dust together; and bind their faces in secret.¹⁴ Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee.

(Job 40:1-14 KJV)

Whenever I think I know something I turn to this part of Job to be reminded of how little I understand. Then I lay my hand on my mouth, for I really do not know much. In a world full of people who think their thoughts to be quite profound it is good to take a journey back to Job and his friends and recall what was spoken by them in the book. A great deal of it sounds well thought out and reasonable to the human mind. The analysis of God's actions expressed in the book fit what many today think are accurate reflections of the justice of God. What we find out reading the book, from Chapter 38 on, is that God does not agree. As a matter of fact, God finds much of that thought reprehensible and chastises Job in speech for it. I am always reminded of a great story regarding the famous Swiss theologian Karl Barth:

According to the best accounts of the incident I have heard..., Karl Barth was at Rockefeller Chapel...on the campus of the University of Chicago during his lecture tour of the U.S. in 1962. After his lecture, during the Q & A time, a student asked Barth if he could summarize his whole life's work in theology in a sentence. Barth allegedly said something like, "Yes, I can. In the words of a song I learned at my mother's knee: 'Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.'" " - Roger E. Olson on [Patheos](#) web site

After I read this portion of Job I can remove my hand from my mouth and sing that great children's song and be reminded of that which I do know, "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." My thoughts are not that profound, but God's justice, exhibited in His great grace is amazing! Sometimes it's necessary for us simply to be found as the children we are in God's sight and to sing that sweet song and rest, safe in the arms of Jesus. May God bless us all with the true knowledge that comes by His Word and Spirit.

God's Peace,

Jay Weidner



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The graduation of Lois Matson from the Deaconess Program will be on Saturday, July 10, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 400 Ingot Street, Hancock, Michigan. Cake & coffee will be served afterwards. Hope you can join us!



LOOKING AHEAD...TO THE FALL SEMESTER

Tentative daily classes offered this fall beginning Wednesday, September 1 will be New Testament Greek, Homiletics, New Testament Introduction, Ministry to the World, Homiletics, and Ephesians/Colossians. The Monday night class will be the Acts of the Apostles which will begin on Monday, September 13 at 7PM.

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InFaith Community Foundation and Thrivent have an expanded partnership, which will include a shared brand and client experience. This will allow InFaith to continue to provide all the same offering and services. They will be operating under a new name, Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, which highlights the close relationship they have had with Thrivent since their inception. The Inter-Lutheran Seminary has an Endowment Fund through this organization. Funds contributed to the endowment are not used for current day to day operations. Only the annual earnings of the endowment will be used for the seminary's needs thereby ensuring the continued existence of this funding source. This is the preferred method used by many non-profit entities, especially ongoing religiously focused organizations such as seminaries.

We would love to grow our endowment into a major source of ongoing seminary support. Although the seminary still needs the financial ongoing regular contributions of our supporters, please consider the endowment fund for your planned giving needs. For more additional information, please contact Kirk Otto, Jr. at (715) 294-4343 or Cheryl Hendrickson at (906) 482-3337.