

# Zophar

Walking with the Unanswerable  
Job 11-14; 20-21

Tim Goodall  
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## Introduction

- What's Zophar's argument?
- How does Job respond?
- Where does that leave us today?
- Response

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## What is Zophar's Argument?

- Accused Job of sinning against God – 11:1-6
- God's Wisdom too much for anyone – 11:7-12
- Call for Job to repent – 11:13-20
- Doctrine of retribution correct – ch.20

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## How does Job respond?

- Job complains against his friends – 12:1-13:17
- Job begins to mount his case against God – 13:17-14:22
- Job completely rejects Zophar's doctrine of retribution – ch.21

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## Where does that leave us?

- Recognise we live on the other side of the cross of Jesus Christ...
- **BUT** also realise that we **CAN** question God – he can handle our anger and despair at unanswerable questions.
- Recognise the need to be honest with God in all circumstances.

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## Communal Prayer

Hear our prayer this morning, O Lord, as our cries come before you.

Do not hide your face from us when we are in distress.

Turn your ears towards us and hear our shouts and cries,

Our deep longings, our long-held wonderings, our unanswered questions.

Our days are diminishing, but you live forever, enthroned on high.

You listen to the prayers of your people, and do not despise their pleas,

So make yourself known to us this morning, by the power of your Holy Spirit,

And answer us this day, for the sake of your glory. Amen.

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