

Luke 1:25

"Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

# God's Reproach

#### Reproach: Biblical Definitions

- 1. To taunt or scorn
- 2. Condition of shame or disgrace Elizabeth
- 3. Revile (between men) or blaspheme (God)
- 4. Figuratively wound

"For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives."

(Heb. 12:6)

## Why does God reproach man?

- Man departs from God
- •"He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." (Jn. 1:11)
- "Why, when I came, was there no man? Why, when I called, was there none to answer?" (Is. 50:2)

# Why do we not respond to God?

- Attachment to Lust
  - •Lust
    - "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." (Mk. 6:18)
  - Money (e.g., Balaam)
  - •Food



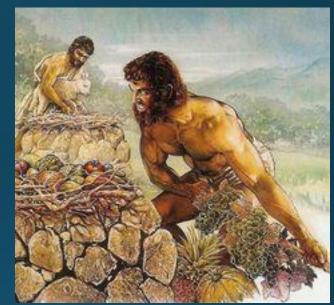
#### Why do we not respond to God?

#### Busyness

- With People
- Position (e.g., Pontius Pilate)
- Comfort/rest
- "I sleep, but my heart is awake; It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, "Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one..." (SS 5:2)
- "I have taken off my robe; How can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; How can I defile them?" (SS 5:3)

### Why do we not respond to God?

- Hardness of Heart
  - Herod the Great
    - "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." (Jn. 1:11)



- Cain
  - "So the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." (Gen. 4:6-7)

### Those who put the Lord above all

- •"My eyes are ever toward the Lord..." (Ps. 25:15)
- •"I have set the Lord always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved."

  (Ps. 16:8)
- "Seven times a day I praise You..."(Ps. 119:164)

Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'

(1 Sam. 3:9)