

Job Chapter 38

V: 1 “*Then the Lord answered Job ...*” Praise God!

- God answer’s Job out of the whirlwind:
- In Job 36 & 37 as Elihu winds down his closing statements he uses the analogy of storm clouds and rain cycles and many commentators think that he was taking advantage of the analogy because there was an actual storm brewing - and now God speaks to Job out of the whirlwind:
- God speaks to us in different ways.

The prophet Elijah ran to hide in Mt. Sinai and the Lord spoke to him there:

1 Kings 19:11-12 “¹¹And He said, go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake: ¹²And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.”

- As God speaks to Job out of the whirlwind, I’m assuming that it’s a little louder than a still small voice.
- Sometimes as God speaks to us through His Word, we can often feel like it’s a whirlwind - too loud, too clear!

Hebrews 1:1-2 “¹God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ²hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son...”

V: 2-3 God asks “*Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*”

- Counsel and or wisdom should enlighten, so to darken counsel is to degrade it, to make it less than enlightening. How is this done? By words without knowledge.
- Words without knowledge = ignorance. Speaking about things that they don’t actually know about or have knowledge of. We’re back to ignorance.
- God then tells Job to gird up his loins, like a man - time to put on your big boy pants...

- Job was sure his speeches had been filled with wisdom and knowledge, but God's first question puts an end to that delusion.
- God proceeds to question Job to seemingly put him in his place to humble him: between chapters 38 & 39 God asks Job 57 questions that neither he nor we can answer.
- God doesn't question Job's integrity or his sincerity, just his ability to explain the ways of God to the world.

V: 4 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? The obvious answer is that neither Job nor anyone else was there to witness that.

- This exposes those who promote the theory of evolution for what they are, men giving ignorant counsel, words without knowledge, it's all just theory.
- It's not real science. Science is something that can be postulated, repeated, tested and so on.
- "Science" used to teach at one time that the world rested on a giant turtle which carried the earth through the universe on it's back, and that it was flat so you had to be careful not to go over the edge.
- We laugh at that today, and some day they'll laugh at evolution, the big bang, and all of that.
- One day the zoo-keeper noticed that the orang-utan was reading two books - the Bible and Darwin's The Origin of Species. In surprise he asked the ape, "Why are you reading both those books"?
- "Well," said the orang-utan, "I just wanted to know if I was my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."

Actually God is already laughing at them:

Psalm 2:4 "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."

V: 5 Here's one we can answer: "You did Lord."

Psalm 102:25-26 "²⁵Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. ²⁶They shall perish, but thou shalt endure yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed.

V: 6 Whereupon are the foundations fastened?

Job 26:7 “He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.”

- All our answers come from the Lord.

V: 7 The morning stars, the angels, including Lucifer, were present and singing as the foundations of the earth were laid. Referring to day 3, **Genesis 1:9** when the dry land appeared.

- This means that the angels were probably created on day 1 or 2.
- Apparently God likes background music while He works... if you want God to work, perhaps singing praises would help.

Hebrews 13:15 “By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.”

V: 8-11 Who created the sea? God set the boundaries of the oceans. About 2/3 of the earth is covered by water. If there were not mountains, high ground, if everything was flattened out and even then the whole earth would be covered in water about 6,000 feet deep. But God set the boundaries.

V: 12-14 Do you cause the sun to rise every morning, or tell it when to set?

- God is asking Job difficult questions about the natural universe, the physical world, things that Job can observe. If he doesn't know these things then how can he know about the moral or spiritual laws of God? How can he challenge the moral laws of God?
- He / we have no basis for doing that.

V: 15 The wicked will be dealt with. Light, understanding is withheld from them, their strength is or will be broken.

V: 16 Scientists are still discovering amazing, unknown things about the depths of the sea. The greatest depth measure so far is in the Pacific Ocean, 35,810 feet or almost 7 miles. We don't know it all, but because of our technology we know more than Job, but not all.

- Jaques Cousteau had a lot of the information, but he drew the wrong conclusions.

V: 17 Job had been talking about death, and his desire to be dead. He had wished that he was dead, where there is no thought, no troubles and so on.

- As God is speaking he thoroughly discounts or refutes Job's declarations about death, saying, "Have the gates of death been opened to you? You don't know what you're talking about."
- Because of that it's wrong to use the scriptures of Job as proof text for a doctrine concerning death.
- The Jehovah's Witnesses & 7th Day Adventist falsely teach about "soul sleep" and they use some of the passages from Job as their proof texts.
- It's better to take the words of Jesus, the gates of death were open to Him! Jesus knows all about it:

Luke 16:19-31 Rich man & Lazarus: each conscious of their circumstances; not "soul sleep."

2 Corinthians 5:8 "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

- God asks Job, "have the gates of death been opened to you? What do you know?"

V: 18 The breadth of the Earth? In Job's day, they didn't have the means to figure that out, even today most of us wouldn't know the answer to that question.

- But we do have the means to find out. We could just watch Jeopardy until the question comes up... or we could look in an encyclopedia. For you younger people an encyclopedia is like Google but in book form. Or you could just Google it... then you would discover that the earth is roughly 25,000 miles in circumference, and about 8,000 miles in diameter.

V: 19-20 This is an interesting question: Where is the way where light dwells? Where does darkness dwell? What are the boundaries of light and dark?

- Think about it. Where does the darkness go when you turn on the light? Where does the light go when you turn it off?
- That's easy, you just kind of shrug your shoulders and move on to V: 21...

V: 21 Of course you know these things because you were there, and because of your great age, right? Obviously not.

The prophet Daniel describes God this way:

Daniel 7:9 "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and His wheels as burning fire."

V: 22-23 Just exactly what the treasures of the snow are isn't fully known. I do know that when the mountains are full of snow, it's a blessing because it means we'll have water, maybe that's the treasure.

- Perhaps it has to do with the beauty of the snow. Every snowflake is a perfect geometrical design, and every one of them is different.
- I'd like to know who's checking...? The snowflake research, design, and examination project. Located in Mojave, Ca. and funded by the Federal government no doubt. Sounds kind of flakey...
- The treasures of hail? Reserved against the time of trouble / the day of battle.

Revelation 16:21 “And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

- Here and in other places God holds the hail in reserve, to be used in war, weaponized hail.

V: 24 There are spectrums of light. I'm not that bright when it comes to light, no pun intended. I just want my little light to shine....

- But there are variations in light, in density and color - God's asking Job how that happens.
- Imagine yourself in Job's shoes at this moment: long pause, no answer...

V: 25-28 Generally one of the problems in maintaining a garden is irrigation, keeping it watered. Look how God takes care of his garden, causing it to rain in the different places and keep everything watered.

- God asks Job, “who does this...?” “Has the rain a father?” - Job, where does the rain come from? And the dew in the morning?

V: 29-30 So Job, where does the frost and the ice come from? Job was more than likely perplexed; most of us our first thought was the ice maker at the refrigerator.

V: 31-33 Pleiades is a winter constellation that is just about straight overhead. It's also known as the “seven sisters”, it's often mistakenly called the little dipper.

- The little dipper is farther North, in fact the North star forms part of the little dipper.
- I don't know what is meant by the sweet influences of Pleiades, or the binding of them.

- Loosing the bands of Orion? Orion is another winter constellation, it is more in the southern sky, it moves from west to east every night, as Orion the hunter chases Taurus the bull, through the sky, with his bow ready to draw down and shoot Taurus.
- Can you bring forth / guide Mazzaroth in his season, the various constellations of the Zodiac? Can you guide Arcturus with his sons?
- Arcturus is the 4th brightest star in the sky, it's about 80 times brighter than our sun and is about 36 light years away, it's 30 times bigger than the sun, bearing in mind that the sun is one million, two hundred thousand times larger than the earth.
- Arcturus is traveling at over 125K miles / second, 30 times bigger than our sun - can you guide it? No.
- Arcturus is also known as the "runaway star" because it is actually traveling faster than all the other stars. By comparing the ancient charts of the stars to their position today they've determined that the stars are not in fixed positions - there is a need for traffic control.
- There are stars out there that are many times larger than Arcturus, and God created them all.
- I guess the question to Job is: Can you control the constellations, the stars, and the universe? The obvious answer is no.

Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork."

V: 34-35 Can we call down rain, or direct the lightning? No.

V: 36 Who put wisdom in the inward parts? God has given us the capacity to think, and to reason, and to learn - He's asking Job, who do you think did that?

- Look at all the information that is stored in DNA, who did that?
- God is declaring that Job hasn't even begun to scratch the surface of man, and of wisdom.

V: 37-41 Who can number the clouds, who can control or hold back the rain? God is the One who oversees creation. He feeds the lions, He provides for the ravens and their young ones.

- Raven's are an "un-clean" animal yet here we see God taking care of them too.

- God is in control, and He's taking care of every thing.
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- Job was asking questions of God. But when God comes He doesn't give Job answers, instead He asks Job questions.
- Why? Because our Father is not One who so much gives the answers as much as He *is* the answer.
- I want to know the reasons why—about life, events, situations, trials, and tragedies. But God is One who, more often than not, does not answer my questions. Rather, He is the Answer in my situation.
- I didn't come into this study looking for this, but I've come away from it thus far with a renewed and an increased appreciation for just how big, and how awesome my God truly is!

Hebrews 7:25 “Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

2 Corinthians 9:8 “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:”

Ephesians 3:20-21 “²⁰Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, ²¹unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

- I don't know what any of you might be going through, but I can tell you this, our God is bigger than anything we might be dealing with, He bigger than all of our problems, and He is the answer, and the solution.

Psalms 16:11 “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand thee are pleasures for evermore.”

- If He can guide Arcturus, then He can guide me!