



DISCIPLE

Desire Determination Discipline Diligence Delight Doer

Course: A Survey of the Bible: Genesis to Revelation

Lesson: 20_12 - **GOD Speaks**

Passage: Job 38-42

**For whatever things were written before were written for our learning,
that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have
hope.**

(Romans 15:4)

The Beginning (Job 1 & 2)

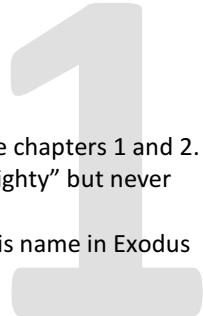
- God declared Job blameless, upright, one who feared God, and shunned evil.
 - Deuteronomy 10:12-13.
- To fear God is to **hate** evil. (Proverb 8:13; 16:6)
- We are commanded to **abhor** evil. (Romans 12:9)
- We are to abstain from **every appearance of evil**. (1 Thess 5:22)
- Those who name the name of Christ depart from iniquity. (2 Tim 2:19)
- **YET**, God **used** Job to deal with challenge by Satan.
- There are two ways of looking at what happened to Job:
 - ① God was unfair to Job.

OR

- ② God using Job honoured Job. There was “no other man” on earth like Job. Job was unique. Job was a treasure of God.
- Chapters 3-37 describes months of suffering Job had to endure. He had to endure it with the **silence of GOD**.

Finally God Speaks (Job 38:1)

- “the LORD” – Yahweh speaks.
 - This name has not be used (except in 12:9) since chapters 1 and 2.
 - The friends had called God “God” and “the Almighty” but never Yahweh.
 - God would **reveal** Himself to His people with this name in Exodus 3:13ff.



- Yahweh (יְהוָה) means “I AM WHO (THAT) I AM”.
 - The name speaks of God’s self-existence and eternal existence.
 - God is **always I AM.**
 - God uses this name in personal covenants or relationships with His people.
 - God associates His absolute holiness and righteousness with this name.
- God comes to Job and Job’s friends on His terms NOT Job’s.
- The LORD comes **not** to **explain** to Job **but** to **reveal** Himself to him! (Job 33:13; Isaiah 45:9; Romans 9:20)
- When we get a **true** look at who God really is the questions of life and justice disappear!!
- The LORD comes to Job in a “storm” – not sunshine or calm!
 - God came to the Israelites at Sinai this way – see Exodus 19:16-20 – see 20:18-20.
 - God came to Ezekiel in the same manner – Ezekiel 1:4, 28.
 - The prophet Nahum spoke of God having His way in the whirlwind – see Nahum 1:1-8.
 - God came to Elijah in a mighty wind – 1 Kings 19:8-11.
- **THE STORM WAS A PICTURE OF “AWESOME” MAJESTY!**
 - ★ **AWESOME:** an overwhelming feeling of reverence, admiration, fear, etc. produced by that which is grand, sublime, and extremely powerful.
 - ★ We sing of God’s majesty but do we really know what it is like?
 - See 1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalm 21:5; **29:4**; 45:3-4; 93:1; 104:1; 145:5; Jude 25.

Words Without Knowledge (Job 38:2)

- God commands Job to “prepare yourself like a man” or “gird up your loins”!
 - The phrase “gird up your loins” or “prepare yourself” means “to prepare for action”!! **MEDITATE ON THIS!**
 - Job was to prepare Himself to “meet His God” and answer God!!!
- **ARE YOU PREPARED TO MEET YOUR GOD?**
 - ★ Preparations required before meeting God:
 - ① **Prepare a character:** One must be **like** God. (Matthew 5:48; Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 John 2:6; 1 Corinthians 11:1)
 - ② **Prepare a case:** We already stand **condemned** by His Word. (John 3:36)

- ③ **Prepare an advocate:** I cannot plead my own case. My advocate must be:
 - ① **Recognized by God.** (Isaiah 42:1; Hebrews 5:4, 5)
 - ② **Efficient:** (Psalm 89:19; Matt 11:27; 28:18; John 3:35; 5:21-29; 17:2)
 - ③ **Available.** (Ephesians 5:2)
- ④ **Prepared NOW.** The end was prophesied! Preparation must start immediately. Tomorrow might be TOO LATE.
 - Consider Ezekiel 14:14, 20; Jeremiah 7:16; 14:11, 14; 15:1; Haggai 1:5-11
- **Thank God we have an Advocate!** (1 John 2:1)
- God comes with **77** questions for Job! **Every question deals with God's creation!**

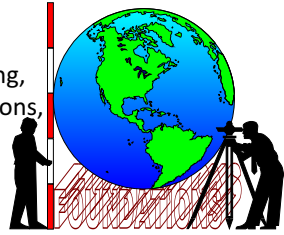
LOOK AT NATURE!

- Job asks **0** questions of God!!!
- God purpose is to show Job his own inadequacy and inability to meet God **as an equal** and defend his case!
- God's response to Job can be divided into three parts:
 - ① Can you **explain** My creation? (38:1-38)
 - ② Can you **sustain** My creation? (38:39-39:30)
Job responds (40:1-5)
 - ③ Can you **control** My creation? (40:6-41:34)
Job responds (42:1-6)
- God comes to Job by first asking "Who are you?"
 - **Who comes to Me with words without knowledge?**
 - Consider the wisdom of the world compared to God – 1 Cor 1:18-30.
 - The beginning of wisdom is the **fear** of God! (Job 28:28; Proverbs 9:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13) **HOW MANY TRULY FEAR GOD IN TODAY'S CULTURE - IN TODAY'S CHURCH?**
- God is **not** questioning Job's integrity, but showing Job his **inability** to explain God's ways in the world. Isaiah told us that God's ways and thoughts and ways are not our ways and thoughts! (Isaiah 55:8-9).
- Job had said lots of good and correct things about God – **but** Job's words lacked humility. Job did not know how much he did not know!
- "Knowledge of our own ignorance is the first step toward true wisdom." (Wiersbe)

"I will question you and you shall answer Me!"

The Creator of the Earth (Job 38:4-7)

- God presents Himself as a **BUILDER** measuring, pouring foundations, marking off dimensions, laying the cornerstone, and erecting the structure called **“the Earth”**.
- The angels sang at creation because it was **AWESOME!**

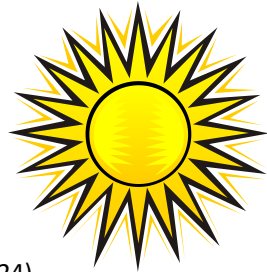


The Creator (Father) of the Seas (Job 38:8-11)

- The idea here is not one of building but **BIRTH**.

The Creator of the Sun (Job 38:12-15)

- God compares Himself to a **COMMANDER** ordering heavenly hosts.

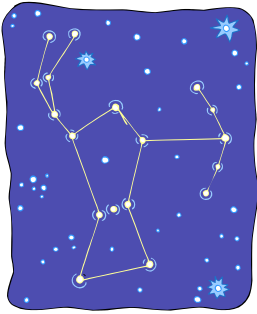


The Dimensions of the Universe (Job 38:16-24)

- God asks Job questions concerning the depth of the sea (35,810 feet/ 10.915 meters/11 kms/6.78 miles)
 - ★ The largest mountain on earth is 8,848 meters or 29,028 feet high!
 - That means that Mount Everest can fit into the Pacific Ocean and sink to the bottom and still have at least 2 kms of water covering it! “Challenger Deep” is about 10,935 meters (35,876 feet) deep.
- God asks Job questions concerning light, darkness, snow, hail, and light! (Exodus 9:18, 24; Joshua 10:11; Isaiah 30:30; Ezekiel 13:11-13; Revelation 16:21)

How About the Rain? (Job 38:25-30)

- Next are questions about thunder, lightning, dew, frost, and ice!
- Then seasonal rains!



Can You Bring Out the Stars in Their Constellations? (Job 38:31-33)

- Pleiades – seven stars
- **Orion – hunter**
- Great Bear with its cubs – Ursa and Ursa Minor.
- Mazzaroth – twelve constellations of the Zodiac.
- God asks Job, “Do you know how the heavens are controlled?”
- (v. 33) “Do you know how the heavens (and everything in them) affects the Earth?”

More Questions About Rain, Thunder, and Lightning (Job 38:34-38)

- Can you command the clouds to produce rain?
- Can you command lightning?
- Can you give and take wisdom?
- Can you number the clouds?

IF YOU CAN THEN WE CAN TALK!

Can You Sustain My Creation? (Job 38:39-39:30)

- The universe is held together by the word of God’s power. (Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3; Acts 17:28)
- The sustainment of the universe is a part of **God’s PROVIDENCE** which states:
 “God’s constant care for and His absolute rule over all His creation, directing all things to their appointed end for His own glory (and purpose) and for the good of His people.”
- God brings some of His creation before Job: a lioness, a goat, a deer, a wild donkey, a wild ox, and a horse. He also brings a raven, ostrich, stork, hawk, and eagle.
- (Job 38:39-40) Can you hunt for the lioness as she goes to feed her young?
- (Job 38:41) Can you provide for the raven?
- (Job 39:1-4) Do you understand the bearing of young of the deer and mountain goat?

- (Job 39:5-8) Did you decide that the wild donkey be free?
- (Job 39:9-12) Can you tame the wild ox?
- (Job 39:13-18) Can you explain the “stupidity” of the ostrich?
- (Job 39:19-25) Did you give strength to the horse?
- (Job 39:26-30) Did you give the **hawk** and **eagle** their instincts/nature?

REMEMBER

We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28

AND

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.

Ephesians 1:11

AND

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, “My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.”

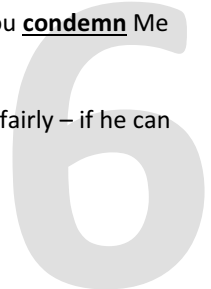
Isaiah 46:10

Job’s First Response (Job 40:1-5)

- God, **the Almighty**, commands Job to answer Him!
- Job’s response:
 - “**I am vile** (of small account, completely unworthy, nothing, of no value, so insignificant).”
 - “I have **nothing** to say!”

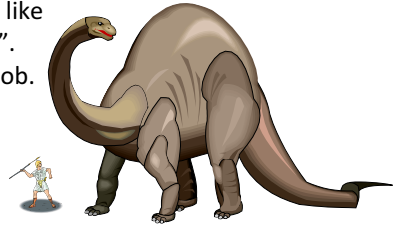
Save Yourself If You Can (Job 40:6-14)

- (v. 7) “Prepare yourself like a man, I will question YOU and YOU will answer Me!”
- (v. 8) “Would you annul My judgment?”; “Would you **condemn** Me that YOU may be justified?”
- (v. 9) “Are YOU like ME?”
- (vv. 10-14) GOD challenges Job to deal with sinners fairly – if he can then God submits that Job can save himself.



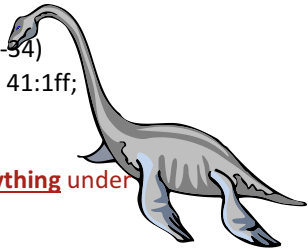
Can You Subdue My Behemoth? (Job 40:15-24)

- Plural for the Hebrew word “beast” – a majestic plural translating into something like “colossal beast”; “majestic beast”.
- God compares His Behemoth with Job.
- The Behemoth described:
 - Eats grass like an ox.
 - Strong hip muscles.
 - Powerful stomach
 - His tail is like a cedar.
 - His sinews of his thighs are tightly knit.
 - His bones are like beams of bronze.
 - His ribs are like bars of iron.
 - He is the first of God’s ways and only He can bring near HIS sword.
 - He is free to roam the mountains and marshes.
 - He is not disturbed by a rushing river.
 - He is fearless!
- God’s challenge, “If you can tame the Behemoth, then he might be capable of sitting in judgment of God?”



Can You Subdue the Leviathan? (Job 41:1-34)

- Mostly likely a “sea monster”. See Job 3:8; 41:1ff; Psalm 74:14; 104:26; and Isaiah 27:1.
- (vv. 1-10) Can you subdue him?
- (vv. 10b-11) God speaks affirms that everything under heaven is Mine! (Psalm 24:1)
- God’s description of the Leviathan:
 - He is mighty in power.
 - His dimensions are gracefully proportionate.
 - He has terrible teeth.
 - His body is covered with scales that are closely knitted together.
 - When he “sneezes” light comes forth.
 - Sparks of fire and flames shoot out of his mouth.
 - He has a powerful neck.
 - When he raises up even the mighty are afraid.



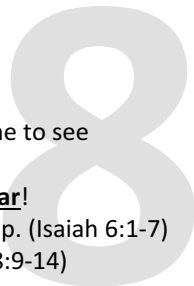
- Sword, javelin, dart, spear, slingshot, arrows, etc. are no threat to him. (vv. 26, 28, 29)
- Iron and bronze are nothing to him! (v. 27)

Job Answers God (vv. 1-3)

- “I **know** . . .”
 - Job had come to **know** God in an intimate way!
 - Paul strived daily to **know** God more and more each and every day. (Philippians 3:8-14)
 - Peter tells us to **add** to our faith **knowledge**. (2 Peter 1:5)
 - Peter **commands** us to continually grow in knowledge. (2 Peter 3:18)
 - God tells us that we are to boast about nothing else but **knowing** Him. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)
 - The only way to **know** God is by God revealing Himself to us. (John 17:3; Matthew 11:25-27; 1 John 5:20; Jeremiah 31:33-34; Hebrews 8:10; 10:16)
 - ★ He rewards ONLY those who DILIGENTLY seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6)
- “I **know** You can **do everything** . . .”
 - God can **and** does whatever He pleases. (Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Job 23:13; Daniel 4:35; Isaiah 46:10; Romans 9:19; Ephesians 1:11; Proverbs 19:21)
 - There is **nothing** that God cannot do! (Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17; Luke 1:37; 18:27) **HE IS ALMIGHTY!**
- “no **purpose** of Yours can be withheld from You”
 - God’s purposes are **sure**. No one can **annul** His purposes. (Isaiah 14:26-27; Psalm 33:11)
 - NO ONE CAN STOP OR HINDER GOD!
- “things **too wonderful** for me, which I did not know”
 - Isaiah 55:8-9
 - Ecclesiastes 8:16-17
 - Psalm 139:1-6
 - Romans 11:34

Job Repents (Job 42:5-6)

- One **real look** at God, who He **really** is, will cause one to see themselves for who we **really** are!
- See with the **eye** (understanding) and not just the **ear**!
 - Consider Isaiah seeing the Lord high and lifted up. (Isaiah 6:1-7)
 - Consider the Pharisee and the Publican (Luke 18:9-14)



- Consider Peter (Luke 5:8)
- Consider the Centurion (Matthew 8:8).
- Remember Job's first response to God in Job 40:3-5.
- One must be **born-again** before they can see. (John 3:3)
- ★ NOTICE: Everything that Job had experienced and said is **nothing** now because now he **sees** God.
- ★ A vision of God causes everything else seem insignificant.

God Appoints Job as an Intercessor (Job 42:7-9)

- "My **wrath** is aroused **against** you and your two friends!"
 - Remember these were **sincere, religious**, theologians!!
- "For you have not spoken of Me what is right."
 - We, as ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20), are responsible to speak the **TRUTH** about God and His Word.
- Notice that God refers to Job **four times** as "His **servant**" in these three verses.
 - Despite all that he had been through he never denied his God!
 - He endured the suffering and silenced the devil!
 - Job was a HERO! HEROS are servants to their nations. Many times they give their lives!
- "**seven bulls** and **seven rams**" suggest that God consider Eliphaz's and his friends' sin very **serious**.

"Folly" – נְבָלָה nebalah {neb-aw-law'} – senselessness, disgraceful folly, profane actions.
- The three men humble themselves and obey God. (1 Peter 5:5-6; James 4:6-7, 10)

God Restores Job (Job 42:10-17)

- **Interestingly**, God restores Job **after** he intercedes for his "friends."
- Job's family and acquaintances come to **comfort** and bring him resources to reestablish Job's losses.
- God blesses Job double of what he had before he lost everything.
- Job lived to be old and full of days.
- **BUT JOB'S GREATEST GIFT OR BLESSING WAS THAT HE CAME TO KNOW GOD IN A DEEPER WAY!** (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

