

Where Were You? (Job 38-42)

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Where Were You? (Job 38:4-7)

*Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Who set its measurements?
Who stretched the line on it?
On what were its bases sunk?
Or who laid its cornerstone,
When the morning stars sang together
And all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

The Sea (Job 38:8-11)

*Or who enclosed the sea with doors When, bursting forth, it went out from the womb;
When I made a cloud its garment And thick darkness its swaddling band, And I placed
boundaries on it And set a bolt and doors, And I said, "Thus far you shall come, but no
farther; And here shall your proud waves stop"?*

The Morning & the Dawn (Job 38:12-15)

*Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, And caused the dawn to know its
place, That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, And the wicked be shaken out of it? It
is changed like clay under the seal; And they stand forth like a garment. From the wicked
their light is withheld, And the uplifted arm is broken.*

The Springs of the Sea (Job 38:16-18)

*Have you entered into the springs of the sea Or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the
gates of death been revealed to you, Or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you
understood the expanse of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this.*

The Light & Darkness (Job 38:19-21)

Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place, That you may take it to its territory And that you may discern the paths to its home? You know, for you were born then, And the number of your days is great!

The Snow & Hail (Job 38:22-24)

Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, Or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, Which I have reserved for the time of distress, For the day of war and battle? Where is the way that the light is divided, Or the east wind scattered on the earth?

The Flood & Thunderbolt (Job 38:25-27)

Who has cleft a channel for the flood, Or a way for the thunderbolt, To bring rain on a land without people, On a desert without a man in it, To satisfy the waste and desolate land And to make the seeds of grass to sprout?

The Rain & Precipitation (Job 38:28-30)

Has the rain a father? Or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb has come the ice? And the frost of heaven, who has given it birth? Water becomes hard like stone, And the surface of the deep is imprisoned.

The Stars & Heavens (Job 38:31-33)

Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, Or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead forth a constellation in its season, And guide the Bear with her satellites? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens, Or fix their rule over the earth?

The Clouds & Storms (Job 38:34-35)

Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, So that an abundance of water will cover you? Can you send forth lightnings that they may go And say to you, "Here we are"?

The Mind & Understanding (Job 38:36)

Who has put wisdom in the innermost being Or given understanding to the mind?

The Clouds (Job 38:37-38)

Who can count the clouds by wisdom, Or tip the water jars of the heavens, When the dust hardens into a mass And the clods stick together?

The Lion (Job 38:39-40)

Can you hunt the prey for the lion, Or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, When they crouch in their dens And lie in wait in their lair?

The Raven (Job 38:41)

Who prepares for the raven its nourishment When its young cry to God And wander about without food?

Mountain Goats (Job 39:1-4)

Do you know the time the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you count the months they fulfill, Or do you know the time they give birth? They kneel down, they bring forth their young, They get rid of their labor pains. Their offspring become strong, they grow up in the open field; They leave and do not return to them.

Wild Donkey (Job 39:5-8)

Who sent out the wild donkey free? And who loosed the bonds of the swift donkey, To whom I gave the wilderness for a home And the salt land for his dwelling place? He scorns the tumult of the city, The shoutings of the driver he does not hear. He explores the mountains for his pasture And searches after every green thing.

Wild Ox (Job 39:9-12)

Will the wild ox consent to serve you, Or will he spend the night at your manger? Can you bind the wild ox in a furrow with ropes, Or will he harrow the valleys after you? Will you trust him because his strength is great And leave your labor to him? Will you have faith in him that he will return your grain And gather it from your threshing floor?

The Ostrich (Job 39:13-18)

The ostriches' wings flap joyously With the pinion and plumage of love, For she abandons her eggs to the earth And warms them in the dust, And she forgets that a foot may crush them, Or that a wild beast may trample them. She treats her young cruelly, as if they were

not hers; Though her labor be in vain, she is unconcerned; Because God has made her forget wisdom, And has not given her a share of understanding. When she lifts herself on high, She laughs at the horse and his rider.

The Horse (Job 39:19-25)

Do you give the horse his might? Do you clothe his neck with a mane? Do you make him leap like the locust? His majestic snorting is terrible. He paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength; He goes out to meet the weapons. He laughs at fear and is not dismayed; And he does not turn back from the sword. The quiver rattles against him, The flashing spear and javelin. With shaking and rage he races over the ground, And he does not stand still at the voice of the trumpet. As often as the trumpet sounds he says, "Aha!" And he scents the battle from afar, And the thunder of the captains and the war cry.

The Hawk (Job 39:26-30)

Is it by your understanding that the hawk soars, Stretching his wings toward the south? Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up And makes his nest on high? On the cliff he dwells and lodges, Upon the rocky crag, an inaccessible place. From there he spies out food; His eyes see it from afar. His young ones also suck up blood; And where the slain are, there is he.

God to Job (Job 40:1-2)

Then the Lord said to Job, Will the faultfinder contend with the Almighty? Let him who reproves God answer it.

Job to God (Job 40:3-5)

Then Job answered the Lord and said, Behold, I am insignificant; what can I reply to You? I lay my hand on my mouth. Once I have spoken, and I will not answer; Even twice, and I will add nothing more.

God to Job: Instruct Me (Job 40:6-9)

Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm and said, Now gird up your loins like a man; I will ask you, and you instruct Me. Will you really annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me that you may be justified? Or do you have an arm like God, And can you thunder with a voice like His?

God to Job: Impress Me (Job 40:10-14)

*Adorn yourself with eminence and dignity, And clothe yourself with honor and majesty.
Pour out the overflowings of your anger, And look on everyone who is proud, and make him
low. Look on everyone who is proud, and humble him, And tread down the wicked where
they stand. Hide them in the dust together; Bind them in the hidden place. Then I will also
confess to you, That your own right hand can save you.*

God's Power Is Seen in Behemoth (Job 40:15-24)

Behold now, Behemoth, which I made as well as you; He eats grass like an ox...

God's Power Is Seen in Leviathan (Job 41:1-34)

Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook? Or press down his tongue with a cord?