

Job – Part 13

Job 38-41; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; December 4, 2016

Job 38

God confronts Job's pride with a barrage of questions.

- 'the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind' (1)
- 'words without knowledge' (2)
- 'you instruct Me' (3)

God speaks out of the storm. (1)

God challenges Job's pride in thinking he knows enough to judge God's actions. (2)

God begins to expose all that Job cannot do and does not know in order to expose his inability to judge God: (3, 21)

- With regard to the creation of the world (4-7)
- With regard to the boundaries of the sea (8-11)
- With regard to the sunrise (12-15)
- With regard to the depths of the ocean (16)
- With regard to where the dead go (17)
- With regard to the size of the earth (18)
- With regard to the source of light and darkness (19-21)
- With regard to the production of snow and hail (22-23)
- With regard to the movement of light and wind (24)
- With regard to the movement of waters and lightning (25-27)
- With regard to the source of rain and ice and frost (28-30)
- With regard to the stars and constellations (31-33)
- With regard to controlling the weather (34-38)
- With regard to feeding the animals and birds (39-41)

Job 39

God continues to interrogate Job with rhetorical and direct questions that expose his inability to judge God:

- With regard to the reproduction among animals (1-4)
- With regard to the design/control of the wild donkey (5-8)
- With regard to the design/control of the wild ox (9-12)
- With regard to the design/control of the ostrich (13-18)
- With regard to the design/control of the horse (19-25)
- With regard to the design/control of the hawk and eagle (26-30)

Job 40

God gives Job a chance to speak and then continues to work on Job's wrong attitudes.

- 'will the faultfinder contend with the Almighty' (2)
- 'let him who reproves God answer it' (2)
- 'what can I reply to You' (4)
- 'the LORD answered Job out of the storm' (6)
- 'Will you condemn Me' (8)

God challenges Job to respond to His argument thus far. (1-2)

Job wisely admits that he has nothing to say and should say nothing. (3-5)

God speaks again out of the storm. (6)

God asks if Job really wants to condemn Him. (8)

Then God begins to illustrate why Job would be foolish to do so:

- Job does not have the power God has. (9)
- Job does not have the glory God has. (10)
- Job cannot judge the wicked as God can. (11-14)
- Job doesn't even have the knowledge or power to match or control one of God's creatures, Behemoth, much less God's knowledge and power. (15-24)
- 'he bends his tail like a cedar' (17)
- 'He is the first of the ways of God' (19)

Job 41

God uses a final illustration in exposing Job's powerlessness and ignorance and inability to judge God's rule of the universe and over his life, by implication, calling Job to trust and submission.

- Job doesn't even have the knowledge or power to match or control another of God's creatures, Leviathan, much less God's knowledge and power. (1-34)
- 'who then is he that can stand before Me' (10)
- 'who has given to Me that I should repay him' (11)

Job can't do what God can do.

Job doesn't know what God knows.

Job isn't even greater than some of God's creatures, in certain ways, how then can he be greater than God?

God doesn't give Job a clear and comprehensive explanation for his suffering.

The implication is that:

1. Job could not fully understand the complex reasoning that resulted in his suffering.
2. Job did not need to understand the complex reasoning in order to trust the character and truth and promises of God that he did know.
3. Job just needed to know that God is for the righteous and against the wicked and that one day that will be abundantly clear to all.
4. Job just needed to know that God was blessing him 'by grace through faith not because of works.'