

I) **V1-3 INTRO: Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said Who is this**

II) **We have come to the close of the argument between Job and his friends
They came to a standstill, with each of them holding to what they
thought to be true
In the final four chapters Job, God steps in and ends the fight**

III) **It is interesting how this begins by saying the Lord answered Job out of the
whirlwind
Elihu had been arguing that God is the God over nature, and uses it for
His purposes
He had spoken of the clouds, rain, thunder, lightning, snow, ice, the sun
and moon**

IV) **In ch 37 he had also spoken of the whirlwind
Job 37:9a From the chamber of the south comes the whirlwind
Whirlwind: a tempest; a violent windstorm**

V) **Out of a dark, thick cloud God sent a whirlwind and in doing so, announced
His presence
In the midst of the arguing and intense emotional windstorm, God
breaks in**

VI) **Ch 38-39 form a single revelation from God concerning Job's inability to pass
judgment on the One who is beyond human judgment**

VII) **Earlier in the book Job had acknowledged that God's ways were beyond
comprehension
Job 9:2-3 I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with
God? If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one time out of a thousand.
Job 9:10 He does great things past finding out; yes, wonders without
number.
Ro 11:33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of
God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and His ways past finding out!**

VIII) **AT THIS POINT: The Lord begins to question Job, and to rebuke his friends**

IX) **V1-3 The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind
God reveals Himself to Job, and answers his questions and concerns**

X) **Out of the whirlwind: Interesting picture, much like the confusion Job had
suffered**

It seems that there are times when God breaks in to our confusion, and brings answers

Quote: The only man who is ever at rest is the one who attains it through conflict

XI) Job had silenced his friends, but had not convinced them of his innocence
Elihu had presented his case, but Job never had a chance to respond
In the midst of this confusion and stress, God breaks in

XII) V2 Notice: Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

I) It is interesting how God begins to answer Job by first asking His own question

Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge

II) Your constant questioning is not bringing light, but increasing darkness
Instead of being of help to your confused friends, your musings only increase ignorance

1 Co 8:2 Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know.

III) V3 Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me

IV) You have desired to contend with Me: You have made this clear several times!
Job 13:3 Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.

Job 23:4-7 I would order my cause before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would know the words which he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Will he plead against me with his great power? No; but he would put strength in me. There the righteous might dispute with him; so should I be delivered for ever from my judge.

Job 31:35 Oh that one would hear me! behold, my desire is, that the Almighty would answer me, and that my Prosecutor (Accuser) had written a book.

V) V3 Job, your wish has been fulfilled: Here I am, state your case; argue with Me
Since you want to argue your case with Me, get ready for the debate

VI) V3 But first, I will question you and you shall answer Me
I am going to ask you some basic questions concerning natural things
If you can answer these simple questions, then you can ask more questions

VII) V4-7 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

God begins by comparing the creation of the world with the construction of a building

VIII) V6 He speaks of the measuring line that carpenter's use, its foundation, its cornerstone

What is the earth built on and supported by?

Who laid the cornerstone, which aligns the building and keeps it together?

IX) V7 When the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy

This is a picture of heavenly praise, when the angels sang when God created the earth

Sons of God can be used when speaking of angels (Job 1:6; 2:1)

X) They are pictured as God's heavenly choir, worshiping and praising God
Rev 5:11-12 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

I) It was normal to sing songs of joy when a cornerstone was laid for a great building

Ezra 3:10 When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places *to praise the LORD*, as prescribed by David king of Israel.

II) Interestingly, Satan was the heavenly choir leader

Ezek 28:13-14 You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels (tambourines) and pipes (row of hollow reeds) was prepared for you on the day you were created. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones.

III) V8-11 Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst forth and issued from the womb

From the earth, He now speaks of the sea that God created and limits

IV) The sea is pictured as a new born baby, wrapped in a dark swaddling cloth (ocean mist)

Gen 1:2 And darkness was upon the face of the deep

This is before the light of the sun arose and the dry land appeared

- V) V9 His might is shown in His power to control and confine the sea
Ps 104:24-25 How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number-- living things both large and small.**
- VI) V12-15 Have you commanded the morning since your days began and caused the
The bringing forth of the sun, which illuminates, warms, and makes life possible**
- VII) V13 The sun shines every morning to the remotest part of the planet
The wicked are shaken out of it speaks of light revealing the evil persons sinfulness**
- VIII) It pictures the evil doing their deeds at night, but hiding from the morning light
Jn 3:19-20 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.**
- IX) V14 It takes on form like clay under a seal and stands out like a garment
The earth at night is unseen because it is dark, but in the morning reveals its beauty
Clay is unappealing until the seal is applied and its impression is clearly seen**
- X) V15 The wicked don't enjoy the sunlight, their deeds are discovered and they are punished**
- I) V16-18 Have you entered the springs (sources) of the sea Or have you walked in search
Can you reach the bottom of the sea, explore its secrets, and explain it**
- II) V17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you Or have you seen the doors of the
Gates of Death: Sheol, the abode of the dead
Do you understand life and death completely? What happens to men after they die? What do they do, what do they know? Can you say when someone will die, or why they haven't**
- III) V18 Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth Tell Me, if you know all this**

What are its exact dimensions, boundaries, and measurements?

IV) V19-21 Where is the way to the dwelling of light And darkness where is its place

**V) WHAT IS THE ORIGIN OF LIGHT: Not simply the sun, but light itself
If you don't know, why do you think that you can search out the deep things of God**

VI) V21 Do you know it because you were born then or because the number of your days

This is sarcasm: were you there when I created all of these things

VII) V22-24 Have you entered the treasury of snow Or have you seen the treasury of hail

Do you know how snow and hail are formed, and how I use them to meet My purposes

**VIII) V23 Which I have reserved for the time of trouble for the day of battle and war
Hail could be used offensively by the Lord**

Ex 9:22-24 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt --on men and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt." When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt; hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

Rev 16:21 And great hailstones weighing almost a hundred pounds each rained down on them from above. And men cursed God for the plague of hail, because it was so horrendous. From the sky huge hailstones, each weighing about a hundred pounds, fell on people.

**IX) V24 By what way is light diffused or the east wind scattered over the earth
Have you determined why the sun shines brighter in one place, then another**

X) Do you determine how the wind moves in one direction, or another

This is similar to what Jesus told Nicodemus

Jn 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit

I) V25-30 Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water or a path for the thunderbolt

God continues asking questions concerning nature

- II) V25 Who left a channel for water, when it floods
Who has determined the path of a bolt of lightning, though not marked out beforehand?
- III) V26-27 Who brings rain to water plants where there is no one to cultivate or care for them
- IV) V28-30 Has the rain a father
Has man produced rain, or morning dew, or ice or snow? Does man freeze water on the top of a lake but keep the water liquid below the ice?
- V) V31-33 Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades or loose the belt of Orion
God now moves to stellar space, and speaks of constellations
- VI) Pleiades: The seven stars that appear about the time of spring
Orion: Rises in November, bringing in the winter
Mazzaroth: The stars seen in the south: can you make them arise, and appear
Arcturus: A northern constellation containing Ursa Major, Ursa Minor and lesser stars
- VII) V33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens
Do you know the physical laws under which nature is governed
- VIII) Obviously, these things are under God's authority and understanding
Ps. 119:90-91 Your faithfulness continues through all generations; You established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve You
- IX) V34-35 Can you lift up your voice to the clouds that an abundance of water may cover you
Do the clouds take their orders from you, listening and obeying you
V35 Is lightning under your orders, ready to do your will at your command?
- X) V36 Who has put wisdom in the mind Or who has given understanding to the heart
Who is the one who directs the clouds, rain and lightning?
They seem to be able to decide to obey God's directions, innately
- XI) V37 Who can number the clouds by wisdom Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven
Who can accurately number how many clouds are in the skies of earth

Who can prevent the rain from being poured out on earth

- XII) V38 When the dust hardens in clumps and the clods cling together
When the earth is dried up and becomes like clay, God graciously
brings the rain**
- I) V39-40 Can you hunt the prey for the lion or satisfy the appetite of the young
lions
God now begins asking questions about wildlife**
- II) V39-40 Are you the one who takes care of the lions and their cubs
Did you place the instinct to hunt within the nature of the lion?
Did you place within them the understanding they needed to hunt, for
themselves**
- III) Have you taken it upon yourself to care for the needs of even wild life
Are you the one who supplies them with the abilities to hunt and survive
Ps 104:21 The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God.**
- IV) V40 When they crouch in their dens or lurk in their lairs to lie in wait
This would speak of an older lion who has had to learn to hide under
cover, and wait
They may be old, or injured, or sick but they still know how to hunt**
- V) V41 Who provides food for the raven when its young ones cry to God and
wander about
The lions provide for their cubs, but the ravens abandon their chicks
early**
- VI) Lev 11:13-15 (The Lord said to Moses and Aaron) These are the birds you are
to regard as unclean and not eat because they are unclean: the eagle, the vulture, the
black vulture, the red kite, any kind of black kite, *any kind of raven***
- VII) They may be unclean because they are scavengers and eat dead bodies
Ravens are loud and as carrion, disgusting and normally rejected by
people**
- VIII) Here God says that the young cry out to God and wander around looking for
food
Even these unclean and rejected birds are cared for by God
Lu 12:24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which
neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them: how much more are you
better than the fowls?**

