Job 38-39 – 29 June 2023 "Who Art Thou...God"

Introduction

*Book of Job opens w/ heavenly scene in which Satan asks permission to bring calamity into Job's life *Chap 3-37 – saw 4 friends give little to no advice that could help job deal with his situation *Finally what we've been waiting for here in Chap 38 *Read Chap 38:1-3

1. God's rebuke? Don't speak what we don't know

a. We give bad advice when we do that

2. God's wants Job to listen w/ intent to answer *As God speaks to Job, He begins to bring to light the <u>most important</u> subject that Job needs to consider to get thru all his calamity

*Is it to understand his situation? No, too small *Is it a way out or thru his situation? No, too limited *Is it a verbal hug of compassion? No, too temporary *It's revelation of <u>who God is</u>! Big enough to effect Job for the rest of his life!

Today we'll see 6 ways we need to exalt God higher

#1: God is Creator, we're only created (38:4-7)

Read Chap 38:4

- 1. Notice the comparison between God & man
 - a. Job wasn't even **created** yet at creation
 - i. By contrast, God has always been
 - b. Yet God was the very agent at creation that made it all happen
- 2. Job, who are you as compared to Me God?

Read Vs 5-7

- 1. These questions are designed to humble Job & exalt God is Job's eyes
 - a. Vs 5 answer obviously is 'God You did'
 - b. Vs 6 answer 'I don't know but You know'
- 2. We can learn a lot from the specific examples that God give in these speeches
 - a. Vs 5: God made the universe of a certain size that only He knows
 - b. Vs 6: God know how universe is sustained
 - c. Vs 7: the angels are morning stars, sons of God and singers

#2: God is Initiator, we're only followers (38:8-21)

Read Chap 38:8-11

- 1. Who did this Job? Answer: You did God
- 2. God's saying, Job did <u>you</u> create the ocean in such a way that you <u>control & contain</u> them

Read Vs 12-15

1. Since you were born, did you take over as the <u>leader of controlling</u> sunrise & when darkness falls?

Read Vs 16-18

1. Job since you were born, you haven't even been to <u>all the places</u> that God has created

Read Vs 19-21

1. Surely Job you are the <u>leader of light</u> since you were born at that time – sarcasm

#3: God is Caretaker of all, we're only beneficiaries (38:22-30)

Read Chap 38:22-27

- Job are you the one that looks out over the whole earth & knows just where to send the snow & rain for its aid?
- 2. Job are you able to use all of creation for good like Me?

Read Vs 28-30

- 1. Job who is progenitor of hydrological cycle?
- 2. God made it & uses it for others benefit

#4: God is Empowerer, we're only the empowered(38:31-41)

Read Chap 38:31-35

1. Did you bring together the constellation Pleiades or could you separate Orion?

- a. Pleiades: aka the 7 stars
- b. Orion: Major stars Rigel & Betelgeuse
- 2. Mazzaroth (aka in secular circles as the zodiac)
 - a. It's the 12 constellations in the yearly cycle
 - b. Read Gen 1:14 For our benefit
- 3. Job can you give power to your own creation to have their own influence and power?

Read Vs 36-38

- 1. God created in such a way that man, His creation, isn't just an automaton, but has his own intelligence and reasoning
- 2. We're not a product of randomness but of an intelligent design that loves and cares for us

Read Vs 39-41

- 1. God has compassionately provided a level of intelligence to His creation to know how to survive and thrive
- 2. His authority and ways are to love & care for us, not to harm us or even to be ambivalent

#5: God is Lord & Master, we're only a part of the system (39:1-12)

- Read Chap 39:1-4
 - 1. Do you know the cycle of the natural reproduction of animals?
- Read Vs 5-8
 - 1. Do you, Job, control the animal kingdom that isn't even among men?
 - 2. No, God's provided them a house & more
- Read Vs 9-12
 - 1. Unicorns in the Bible
 - a. Modern culture has applied this English word to a mythical animal but the word just means a horned animal
 - b. The modern Indian Rhinoceros' scientific name is rhinoceros unicornis
 - c. The English word is a translation of the Hb *re'em* which is used 9 Biblical times to mean the aurochs, an extinct species of wild ox
 - 2. The point: even the animals aren't fully under your control Job

#6: God is the Sovereign Chooser we're only the receiver (39:13-30)

Read Chap 39:13-18

 As God chose to provide strength to the wild ox, He also chose to deprive the ostrich of wisdom
a. Read Rom 9:20 – God has that right!
b. Did you do that Job or do you know why? no

Read Vs 19-25

- Job did you give to the horse his courage & power? No
- 2. God has created each one uniquely & intricately!

Read Vs 26-30

- 1. At creation, God has taught wisdom to even the birds
- 2. God has gifted each one in their position with their own unique talents, abilities and strengths

Conclusion

- God's visit isn't as Job's friends may have imagined God didn't come to Job as policeman or judge God came to Job as these 6 things...
 - 1. <u>As Creator</u>: All-powerful & fulfilled w/i Self
 - 2. <u>As Initiator</u>: He's given to each their purpose
 - 3. <u>As Caretaker</u>: He provides the practical love that we need
 - 4. <u>As Empowerer</u>: He gave the ability not just to survive but to grow and thrive
 - 5. <u>As Lord & Master</u>: All is orchestrated under God's will
 - 6. <u>As Sovereign Choose</u>: He gets to choose own life's circumstances whether strong or weak

This is designed to show Job God's excellent glory & our limitations to understand Him

So in order to understand our own situation correctly, we <u>start by elevating God to His rightful lofty place</u>!