

## **JOB – Chapters 38:1-38 – “THE LORD REVEALS HIS OMNIPOTENCE TO JOB”**

### OBSERVATION

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

### **"How Great Thou Art" Stuart Hine, Maranatha Praise Band**

*1 Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made. I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

*Refrain: Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee, How great Thou art, How great Thou art. Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee, How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

*2 When through the woods And forest glades I wander I hear the birds Sing sweetly in the trees, When I look down From lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook And feel the gentle breeze, (Refrain)*

*3 And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in. That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin. (Refrain)*

*4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, To take me home, what joy shall fill my heart. Then I shall bow in humble adoration And there proclaim my God how great Thou art! (Refrain)*

### **The Importance of Creation, which Exalts God’s Power, His Wisdom, His Purpose!**

**Col 1:16** *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*

**Rev 14:6-7** *Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— [7] saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*

**Heb 10:38-11:3** *NOW THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; BUT IF ANYONE DRAWS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM." [39] But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.[11:1] Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. [2] For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. [3] By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

**Rom 1:18-20** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, [19] because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. [20] For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,*

**Paul and Barnabas at Lystra – Paul Emphasizing Creation in His Message! Act 14:15-18** *and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, [16] who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own. [17] He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." [18] And with these sayings they could scarcely restrain the multitudes from sacrificing to them.*

**Paul Addresses the Areopagus - Act 17:24-27** *God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. [25] Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. [26] And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, [27] so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; [28] for in Him we live and move and have our being,*

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### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

## **JOB – Chapters 38:1-38 – “THE LORD REVEALS HIS OMNIPOTENCE TO JOB THROUGH CREATION”**

The first set of divine questions had to do with the history of the primeval world. After making it clear that Elihu’s lengthy discourse consisted merely of “darkens counsel by words without knowledge”; and that God’s own words were primarily in response to Job’s prayers (Elihu and the other three had offered their opinion, but none had, like Job, expressed the need or desire to hear directly from God).

We will see God in a sense giving Job a day in court, which he had been requesting so he could question God why He was doing all these things. Job had, at times bought into the proposition of his friends that the reason God was punishing Job was for secret sin or hypocrisy, which wasn’t true at all. But Job came to believe that was what God was doing in his life and because he knew that he wasn’t guilty of secret sin, then he allowed his mind to think that God is unfair and unjust in His dealings with me and to charge God with unrighteous or injustice, which was quite a charge to bring against the true and living God. Job has lost it a little bit and God is going to bring him back. That was Job’s concern. More than once in the Book, Job crossed the line where he began to accuse God of wrong doing in his life.

Whenever a child of God does that, Job or any of us, we openly, vocally, with other people listening, begin to accuse God of mishandling our life or wrongdoing in our life, then we are openly casting doubt upon the minds of the listeners of the doubt upon the goodness and righteousness and justice of God. Job had done that more than once. Since Job had complained so bitterly against God and authoritatively, and he had. Some of the things he had said against God and about God almost makes us cringe. We understand the greatness of the trial and his suffering in some respect, he had spoken so authoritatively about what God should or shouldn’t be doing. Thus when a person does that, by implication, that we are smarter than God, and we are wiser than God – so why is He doing this? Anybody can see, especially me, that it ought to be handled in a different way. Job was communicating that he could run things a little bit better than God. God decided to give Job in the final chapters of Job, the “God test”! Kind of an entrance exam for being God. In chapters 38-41 God poses 70+ questions to Job, that anyone who wants to take over God’s job for Him ought to be able to answer, not one of them or five of them, but all seventy of them! The fascinating thing is that out of all the 70 questions, Job is not able to answer a single one of them! Job failed the “God Test” miserably and wonderfully!

Whenever we find ourselves in situations where we don’t understand what’s going on and begin to think that God doesn’t know or is not responding as we think He should, to go back to the final 4 chapters of Job and meditate on them. We will find out that we are about as qualified as Job was in taking over for God, which is that we are not qualified at all! God’s questions are not being asked to humiliate or mock Job, but to teach him a very important lesson.

God is going to address Job twice in these questions. In the first address He is going to address the question, “*Shall mortal man contend with God?*”? Does man have the wisdom and the power necessary to contend with God? To prevail in contending with someone there must a demonstration of power and wisdom. Of course, no man is able to contend with God. God is going to question Job in such a way as to demonstrate to Job that he has very limited power and wisdom and to possibly contend.

God spoke the following words of profound wisdom. Job 38:4-7 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding, [5] determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? [6] To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, [7] When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

At the end of the Book of Job, what does the LORD say about the comments made by Job? By his three “friends”? By Elihu?

The Lord Answers Job –

- Job 38:1-2 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: [2] “Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? (Who does “this” refer to?
- Job 42:7-8 And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has. [8] Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.”

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### Chapters 38

**Job 38:1** Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:

**Job 38:2** "Who is this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge?

**Job 38:3** Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me.

**Job 38:4** "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.

**Job 38:5** Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

**Job 38:6** To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,

**vs. 1** **JEHOVAH - YAHWEH** now answers out of the whirlwind, meaning that He is always listening to us! Watching us! Because He loves us! **Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:** Over the previous 35 chapters (since Job 2), God has been absent from the account. We read nothing of His direct role in comforting, speaking to, or sustaining Job in the midst of his crisis. Over that time, **Job has ached repeatedly for a word from God.** He will indeed settle this dispute His way. Job and his friends each wanted God to settle it by proving them right, explaining the reason for all Job’s afflictions; Job’s friends wanted God to prove them right and for Job to recognize his error. **God will not satisfy either** one of these expectations. **Significantly**, God did not obviously answer Job’s questions, **but He did answer Job himself**, (but not his friends).

**vs. 2-3** **Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?** To whom God asked this question? Likely, it was partially if not primarily directed to Elihu, who had spoken for 6 chapters when the LORD interrupted. All the characters did darken counsel by words without knowledge. All of them spoke without accurate knowledge of what the reader knows from Job chapters 1 and 2. **Now prepare yourself like a man:** Job had previously complained that God was battling against him in a great contest, without knowing, was really battling against Satan. Now he would indeed wrestle with God, and God challenged him to prepare yourself like a man. **I will question you, and you shall answer Me:** Job had insisted that God bring answers to him. **God turned the matter around and told Job that before He would answer questions for Job, Job had some questions to answer before God.** An entrance exam to “if I were God”!

**vs. 4** **Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?** God is going to talk about the wonder of these things! Why would you ever accuse Me about not caring or watching over you? Job, you don’t think I can manage the difficult things in your life? Note the obvious intention, Job was nowhere to be found **when God laid** the foundations of the earth. God was ancient in His power, wisdom, and might and Job could never be considered to be on the same level as God. **Job, you don’t think I can handle the difficult things in your life?**

**vs. 5-6** **Who determined its measurements . . . To what were its foundations fastened:** Who gave the dimensions and laid out the details? The intricacies of the universe are unimaginable! Job was not present at the creation of the world, so he had no understanding of the measurements or foundations of the earth. The earth indeed has measurements and foundations; yet Job did not know them. The complexity of the universe is astounding, far beyond man’s understanding!

**v. 1** The very fact that God answered Job is a great encouragement and healthy influenced to us in that it demonstrates that God does listen to us and knows all thing as to what is going on all the time!

**vs. 2-3** In one sentence God encapsulates all of Job’s questions that he has spoken and that is, **“who is this who darken counsel by words without knowledge?** God lets Job know in one sentence that Job’s self-authoritative confidence was totally misplaced and that he really didn’t know that much more about God than his friends - Job had just been speaking in ignorance! Then God tells Job to prepare himself like a man to answer My questions! Note the whole situation has turned around. **God is not answering Job, but Job is answering God! This is a great test for everyone who rejects or questions God!**

**v. 4** God is essentially saying to Job (and to each of us): **“Job, if you can answer these things, then you are fit to question Me. If you cannot answer these things, then you do not have a place to demand answers from Me.”**

**vs. 5-6** How can Job, or we, give a reason why God made the earth of such a length and breadth, and no more, when He could so easily have done it? How much less can he of God’s secret and unsearchable judgments – all past our finding out? Was Job around at that time? Were any of us?

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*Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

*Job 38:8 "Or who shut in the sea with doors, When it burst forth and issued from the womb;  
Job 38:9 When I made the clouds its garment, And thick darkness its swaddling band;*

*Job 38:10 When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors;*

*Job 38:11 When I said, "This far you may come, but no farther, And here your proud waves must stop!"*

*Job 38:12 "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, And caused the dawn to know its place,*

*Job 38:13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, And the wicked be shaken out of it?*

*Job 38:14 It takes on form like clay under a seal, And stands out like a garment.*

*Job 38:15 From the wicked their light is withheld, And the upraised arm is broken.*

*v. 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God (bene Elohim) shouted for joy:* This tells us that angelic beings (here called morning stars and sons of God) did in fact witness the creation of the earth, and the rejoiced at the glory, power, and wisdom of God in the creation. “*Shouted for joy*; rejoiced in and blessed God for His works; God intimates that they neither advised nor assisted Him in His works, nor disliked any of His works, as Job had presumed to do with the works of His providence, which are not inferior to those of creation.”

*v. 8 Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst forth:* This likely is a reference to God’s work on the second day of creation (Gen 1:6-8) when God divided the waters and separated the land from the sea. Job wasn’t around when God did this, and therefore had no idea how it was done.

*v. 9 Firmament above the heavens and below the heaven,*

*v. 10 fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors;* We can observe the beaches and shorelines of the oceans see direct evidence of this.

*v. 11 When I said, “This far you may come, but no farther, and here your proud waves must stop!”* Job had no understanding of how God set the boundaries for the sea. He knew such boundaries existed, but could not explain how or why exactly they were set.

*v. 12 Have you commanded the morning since your days began?* This was a wonderful question for God to ask. “Job, have you made morning to **come even once all the days** of your life? (assuming a 6,000 year age, there have been about **2.2 million mornings!**) Is this in your power to do?” **Every day the sun comes up over the horizon at a slightly different place. Who determined those exact distances?**

*v. 13* When the light begins to dawn upon the earth, thieves, murderers, and adulterers, who all hate and shun the light, fly like wild animals to their dens and hiding places, for they dare not come to the light, lest their ungodly works be manifested.

*v. 14* Like ancient clay cylinders, turning where there is an order, sunrise and sunset, something measured out from it. A seal is put on it each day!

*v. 15* Every 24 hours, God breaks in and He interrupts the wicked who thrive in darkness. God uses the dawn every day to limit the expansion of wickedness in the world

*v. 7* Since God said that all the sons of God shouted for joy, we can take from this that Lucifer fell from his exalted position as the anointed cherub who covers sometime *after* God created the earth.

*vs. 8-11* We can see for thousands of years the oceans have stayed where God has kept them! Job were you (or we) there when I did that? If I can cause the oceans to obey how far I say they can go, do you think I can set boundaries on your life?

*v. 12* Just think about God’s question – *have you commanded the morning since your days began?* How about just one morning?

*vs. 13-14* Are there things in our lives that fit only in darkness, that need to be shaken out?

*v. 15* Job have you ever created or caused the dawn even one day, ever?

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### INTERPRETATION

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**Job 38:16 “Have you entered the springs of the sea? Or have you walked in search of the depths?”**



**Job 38:17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you? Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death?**

**Job 38:18 Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this.**

**v. 16 Have you entered the springs of the sea?** Job probably didn’t even know there were springs of the sea, much less ever enter them. We’ve only recently discovered this. Job certainly didn’t know other hidden things, such as the gates of death or the breadth of the earth. We didn’t know until the beginning of the last century, that **there are major fresh water inlet springs coming into the bottom of the ocean**, feeding it. **There aren’t just 1.5 trillion tons of rains that fall every day** in the hydra cycle, but **huge aquifers feeding in the bottom of the ocean**, some hot. In some islands, natives dive into the ocean to get fresh water, places where the oxygen level is higher. The places become cleaning stations where large schools of fish come. It’s phenomenal what all happens in the sea. Job, where you there when that way laid out?

**search of the depths?** Job, how about when **the deepest part** of the ocean’s depth, the **Mariana Trench**, was formed. More than **6 miles deep**, about 7,000 feet deeper than Mt. Everest is tall! It has a length of over **1,500 miles**, five times that of the Grand Canyon, with marine life adapted to **sea pressures of more than 8 tons per square inch** (703 kilograms per square meter). This is **more than 1,000 times the pressure felt at sea level**, or the **equivalent of having 50 jumbo jets piled on top of a person**.

If we layer the estimated total volume of ocean water of 1.386 billion cubic km. on a **smooth sphere**. It would be a layer with a radius of 6502.61 kilometers. Subtract 6500 from here and you get a depth of 2.61 km. or **1.6 miles!**

**v. 17** Job, what do you know about death? You seemed at times to be expert about dying. Why don’t You let me die? It would be better for me to die than to go on! Death is no mystery to the LORD.

**v.18** We’ve only known for certain, the last several hundred years that the circumference of the earth is about 8000 miles and the diameter is more than 24,000 miles! While living in Alexandria, Eratosthenes received some amazing correspondence from the city of Syene (today, Answan), about 675 miles south of Alexandria in southern Egypt, which said that, on the Summer Solstice, *the shadow of someone looking down a deep well would block the reflection of the Sun at noon*. In other words, the Sun would be **directly overhead** at this time, not a single degree to the South, North, East or West. And if you had a completely vertical object, it would cast *absolutely no shadow*. But Eratosthenes knew that this *wasn’t* the case where he was, in Alexandria. Sure, the Sun came **closer** to being directly overhead at Noon on the Summer Solstice in Alexandria than at any other time during the year, but vertical objects still cast shadows. And -- like any good scientist -- Eratosthenes **did the experiment**. By **measuring the length of the shadow cast by a vertical stick during the solstice noon, he could figure out what angle the Sun made with the vertical direction at Alexandria**. And the answer he got was one-fiftieth of a circle, or **7.2 degrees**. But at this time, in Syene, the angle the Sun was making with an identical vertical stick was **zero degrees!** What could be causing this? In perhaps a stroke of genius, Eratosthenes realized that **the Sun’s rays could all be parallel**, and that **the Earth could be curved!**

**v. 16** Like most of us, we have not entered the springs of the sea, but weren’t even aware that there fresh water springs the bottom of the oceans. No, LORD, we are not the least bit able to know or do anything of what You do!

**v. 17** Job do you know where the gates of death are located? Do you know of death is about? You’ve talked about wanting to die!

**v.18** More than 2500 years after Job, man still thought the earth was flat!

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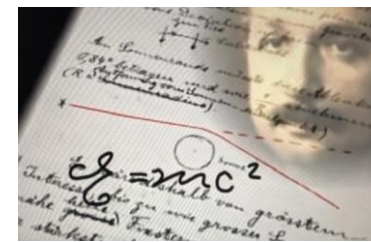
**Job 38:19** "Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place,  
**Job 38:20** That you may take it to its territory, That you may know the paths to its home?  
**Job 38:21** Do you know it, because you were born then, Or because the number of your days is great?

**Job 38:22** "Have you entered the treasury of snow, Or have you seen the treasury of hail,  
**Job 38:23** Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, For the day of battle and war?

**vs. 19-21** Where is the way to the dwelling of light? It was as if God asked, “Job do you know where light comes from? Do you know its nature and its source? This is incredible! “Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place? Light is never static, always moving. Where is the place of darkness, which is static, never moving? Sir Isaac Newton postulated **almost three centuries ago that light bends, gets twisted as it goes past the sun because of gravity.** We have discovered this to be true, (although most scientists don’t like to talk about it), and that light appears to be sucked into black holes. This is most interesting because **if light is subject to gravitational force, then light is matter!** If light is matter, (then time, which is relative to the speed of light, matter at the speed of light), **that you needed matter to get time, not time to get matter.** Then the first chapter of Genesis becomes even more clear. God who is outside time, could have created the matter, as the Bible says, out of nothing, out of His genius. Then He could plug it into our time system of 24 hour days, weeks, months and years! If in millions of years, you needed bees to pollinate trees to propagate foliage, you would have **each system failing and falling apart**, as well as that, **intersystem complexity, which depended on the other system.** They don’t talk about the complexity of systems themselves and that complexity of systems **critically dependent on one another.** God told Jeremiah, before you were matter, I knew who you were. Before time and matter, I had information on you. **Jer 1:5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you (before you were time and matter); Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations." **God in His genius may have created matter outside of time.** Scientists don’t know what to do about all this as their equations are falling apart as they are finding out that the speed of light is not constant. The **speed of time appears to be slowing down, that it is subject to entropy?** When splitting positrons (a positron is an unstable anti-particle of an electron), they would take photons (particles of light), split them then deflect one of the them. To their surprise the one that was split off and not deflected, did indeed exhibit exactly the same deflection at exactly the same point and at the same angle as the one that was deflected. **They found out the one photon knew what the other photon is doing! There is genius in all that!** Job is there something in your life that I can’t do? You’re telling me what You’re doing and not doing? **Do you know it, because you were born then, or because the number of your days is great?** Perhaps Job was so old and so wise that he did indeed know these things. If this were the case, God invited Job to speak up at any time.

**vs. 22-23** treasury of snow - It is conservatively estimated that in a moderate snowstorm over a fairly large city will have **over a trillion snowflakes that fall!** Every single snowflake will have **six points and a perfect 60 degree angle between each point.** Every single one of them and **not one of them is the same!** All beautiful, distinctly different in great quantity, immeasurable! **What genius!** Job what do you know how any of this works?  
**treasury of hail,** This was written hundreds of years before the time of Joshua - **Jos 10:11** And it happened, as they fled before Israel and were on the descent of Beth Horon, that the LORD cast down large hailstones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed with the sword. Also in **Eze 38:22** And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. And in the final judgment in **Rev 16:21** And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent (96-120 lbs). Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great.  
In high altitude testing of the hydrogen bomb, with naval vessels scattered at various location the water below the testing site, demonstrated dent marks on their decks along with shards of ice, indicating that hailstones, estimated weighing 100 pounds were formed during the testing.

**vs. 19-21** God asks Job if he understood the nature of light, darkness and the sky **Do you comprehend the nature of light, darkness, and the sky? God describes them here as being in a place beyond man’s reach.** They need a guide to help them find their way home. God can do this, but Job cannot. Nor can we!



**v. 22-23** So Job if I can handle the battle fields like this, do you think I can handle you and our situation? **treasury of snow... the treasury of hail,** It seems that God has them stored in His treasuries in a way like we think a man thinks about gold! No LORD, we don’t know anything about your treasuries of snow and hail, let alone have we entered them! The OT penalty for blaspheming God was stoning!

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**Job 38:24** By what way is light diffused. Or the east wind scattered over the earth?

**Job 38:25** "Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water, Or a path for the thunderbolt,

**Job 38:26** To cause it to rain on a land where there is no one, A wilderness in which there is no man;

**Job 38:27** To satisfy the desolate waste, And cause to spring forth the growth of tender grass?

**v. 24** By what way is light diffused, Job, do you know by what way light is parted or divided – spectrums of light, as at the first creation, when God divided the light from darkness, Gen 1:4? Or at sun rising and sun setting, so in the two hemispheres, when there is darkness on the one, and light on the other; or under the two poles, when there are interchangeably six months light and six months darkness? Or how it is parted in an unequal distribution of day and night, at different seasons and in different climates; or how on one and the same day, and at the same time, the sun shall shine in one part of the earth, and not another; and more especially if this had been now a fact, and known, that there should be darkness all over the land of Egypt, and light in Goshen. Some understand this of lightning, but that is later mentioned; the east wind scattered over the earth? that rising sometimes with the sun, or first spring of light; see Jon 4:8; or which light spreads and diffuses itself "from the east", as it may be rendered. The sun rises in the east, and in a very quick and surprising manner spreads and diffuses its light throughout the hemisphere. Or this may respect the east wind itself, which scatters the clouds; and either spreads them in the heavens over the earth, or disperses them and drives away rain, as the north wind does? **The flash spectrum at times of solar eclipses are amazing and tell us much about God's genius.**

**v. 25** Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water: In the previous section God spoke of His wisdom in the management and use of snow and hail; here He spoke of His ability to engineer drainage systems and a channel for the overflowing water. We're still finding out so many things about the hydra cycle. **1.5 trillion tons of water that fall per day.**

Or a path for the thunderbolt - And we are learning so much about lightning and thunder. **2+ million lightning charges strikes per day (1.4 billion/year – 44/second) on the earth. A typical lightning bolt contains 1 billion volts and contains between 10,000 to 200,000 amperes of current."**

The lightning bolt has a leader so bright and so bold that it looks very thick, but supposedly it's only an inch thick! **The rest of the charge will go along this leader at 10,000 to 200,000 amperes at voltages up to 100 million volts, travelling for miles at 90,000-200,000 mph at temperatures 5 times that of the sun, exceeding 53,000 degree Fahrenheit!** As it burns like this, it creates space and then the atmosphere claps in – which is thunder, which we hear.

A thunderstorm that goes by creates an **estimated 10 million kwh. (equivalent to a medium nuclear device, a large single home for 2,000 years!)** The total energy in a large thunderstorm is thought to be enough to power the whole of the USA for 20 minutes.

**vs. 26-27** In directing the course of the rain He does not neglect the wilderness, the desert land, where no man is to be employed in taking care of the productions. God's providence reaches further than man's capability or even presence. If he had not more kindness for many of the inferior creatures than man has, they would perish. God can make the earth fruitful without any art or pains of ours, Gen 2:5-6. When there was not a man to till the ground, yet there went up a mist and watered it. But we cannot make it fruitful without God; it is He that gives the increase. God does show much favor with regard to man, yet He does not overlook the inferior creatures, but causes the bud of the tender herb to spring forth for food for all flesh, as well as for the service of man. **Even the wild donkeys** shall have their thirst quenched, Psa 104:11. God has enough for all, and wonderfully provides even for those creatures that man neither has service from nor makes provision for.

**v. 24** Job, do you know when God divided light from darkness at creation how He parted or divided – spectrums of light, Gen 1:4 Or at sun rising and sun setting, so in the two hemispheres, when there is darkness on the one, and light on the other; or under the two poles, when there are interchangeably six months light and six months darkness? Or how it is parted in an unequal distribution of day and night, at different seasons and in different climates, with the sun shining in one part of the earth, and not another? Surely Job, you must know these things?

**v. 25** God has dominion over the lightning and the thunder, which go not at random, but in the way that he directs them. They are mentioned here because he prepares the lightnings for the rain, Psa 135:7. Those that fear God need not be afraid of the lightning or the thunder, for they are not blind bullets, but go the way that God Himself directs.

**vs. 26-27** God showed Job that man was completely unable to cause rain. In fact, even in desolate places where no man is, God causes it to rain for the animal kingdom and grass for them to eat. Do you think I don't care for you?



OBSERVATION	INTERPRETATION
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## INTERPRETATION

**Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.**

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# JOB – Chapters 38:1-38 – “THE LORD REVEALS HIS OMNIPOTENCE TO JOB”

## OBSERVATION

## INTERPRETATION

## APPLICATION

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*Job 38:33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth?*

*Job 38:34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, That an abundance of water may cover you?*

*Job 38:35 Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, And say to you, 'Here we are!'*

*Job 38:36 Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart?*

**v. 33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?** Like many in the ancient world, Job probably understood the arrangement and patterns in the starry sky. Yet he could not even begin to explain the natural forces which governed this arrangement (*the ordinances of the heavens*). So far are we from being able to change them that we can give no account of them; they are a secret to us. Shall we then pretend to know God's counsels, and the reasons of them? If it were left to us to set the dominion of the stars upon the earth, we should soon be at a loss. Shall we then teach God how to govern the world?

It's good to watch "*The Privileged Planet*," available, free in the internet (YouTube)! **The chance factor of another planet having what God has given Earth, which fully support complex life forms is  $1 \times 10^{-15}$  power!  $1/1,000,000,000,000,000$ .** That's off the charts mathematically, believed to be far beyond reasonable possibilities! If the moon were moved away or closer even a few yards would not allow the flash spectrum to occur during a complete solar eclipse of the sun!

**v. 34 Can you lift up your voice to the clouds:** Job was not only powerless over the starry sky and constellations, he was also powerless over the clouds and lightnings. He was powerless over natural phenomenon, both far and near to him. Lord, Your gardens, fields, and farms; can man, in a magisterial way, call to and demand of the clouds to let down rain in quantities, sufficient to water them and make them fruitful? No, man cannot. **You may cry and call as long as you want, but not a cloud will stir, nor a drop of water be let down; Rain is to be had in a suppliant way, through the prayer of faith, as by Elijah**, but not in a dictatorial authoritative way: the clouds and rain are only at the disposal of the Lord; ask of Him, and He will give them; but they are not to be commanded, *Zec 10:1; Amo 5:8*.

**v. 35 Can you send out lightnings, that they may go,?** - Lightning is wholly under the control of God. So it is now; for after all that man has done to discover its laws, and to guard against it, **yet still man has made no advances toward a power to wield it**, nor is it possible that he ever should. It is one of the agencies in the universe that is always to be under the Divine direction, and however much man may subsidize to his purposes wind, and water, and steam, and air, yet there can be no prospect that the forked lightning can be seized by human hands and directed by human skill to purposes of utility or destruction among people. **And say to you, 'Here we are!'** - Behold us we are at your disposal. This language is derived from the condition, of servants presenting themselves at the call of their masters, and saying that they stood ready to obey their commands.

**v. 36 Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart?** Job knew that man had intelligence and wisdom, and that **this intelligence must have been given by an Intelligent Designer**. Like all men, Job's intellectual capacity was not the product of random chance or mysterious processes; it was designed by a great Designer. It is interesting to consider that modern science has made amazing progress on answering some of the questions God set to Job. Modern science **understands much more about the measurements of the earth (*Job 38:5*); much more about the gravitational forces that keep the earth suspended (*Job 38:6*); much more about the meteorological and hydrological systems of the earth (*Job 38:8-11; Job 38:16; Job 38:25-30*);** Modern science knows **much more about the nature of light (*Job 38:19-20*)**. This increased knowledge is a wonderful and glorious thing, and scientific inquiry is to be applauded. It is a wonderful fulfillment of our abilities as creatures made in the image of God that we can investigate and better understand the natural world.

**v. 33 Have you known God through His creation? Can you really know God through creation? I think God is making it very clear to Job that the creation reveals His greatness. One can know about God through His creation, but creation will not bring a man to a saving knowledge of God.**

**v. 34 Job, can you produce lightning and thunder, that water may be formed, and poured down upon the earth? The idea is, that it is God only who can cause rain, and that the control of the clouds from which rain descends is wholly beyond the reach of man.**

**v. 35 If Job cannot command the clouds, how much less can he send forth lightnings?—these marvelous and tremendous evidences of God's Almighty power. Even now, with all our command of electricity, our distinguished scientists find it difficult, if not impossible, to produce the effects which result from a single flash of lightning.**

**v. 36 Job do you think I have created and can run the entire universe, which you can't even understand and can't manage your life? All of this that I made is just a "throw away" for you, but you are the "keeper"! If I have put all this into play for you, Job, would it seem possible that you whom I love, I would abandon?**

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<p><i>Job 38:37 Who can number the clouds by wisdom? Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven,</i></p> <p><i>Job 38:38 When the dust hardens in clumps, And the clods cling together?</i></p>	<p><u>vs. 37-38</u> <i>Who can number the clouds by wisdom?....</i> Or who has such wisdom as to be able to count them when the heavens are full of them, or understand them, explain the nature of them, their matter, motion, and use? No one, no man can do this. And then the sense is, who can make a clear and serene sky when it is cloudy? No man, only the Lord.</p> <p><i>or who can pour out the bottles of heaven?</i> Who can do this, when it is the will of God to withhold them? To stop or <i>pour out</i>, those bottles, to restrain rain, or <i>pour</i> it forth, <b>is entirely at His will and pleasure, and not man's.</b> The power and goodness of God are herein to be acknowledged, that He gives the earth rain enough to soften the earth, but not drown it. He makes it fit for the plow, but not unfit for the seed. As we cannot command a shower of rain or a fair day without rain, so God is so constantly necessary. <b>We totally must to depend on Him!</b></p>	<p><u>vs. 37-38</u> Job can you (or we?) <i>number the clouds in wisdom?</i> Are you wise enough to <i>number the clouds</i>, and say how many they are? Or you can you <i>pour out the bottles of heaven</i>, which are the dense clouds heavy with rain, which alternately hold the moisture like a reservoir, and pour it out upon the earth. God alone can determine when the rain shall fall. Or Job, do you know that by the heat of the sun's rays the ground grows into hardness, and <i>the dust hardens in clumps and clods cling together</i>, baked into a compact mass, then is the time when rain is most needed, and when the Almighty in his mercy commonly sends it.</p>
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