

JOB – Chapters 38:36 39:30 – “THE LORD REVEALS HIS OMNIPOTENCE TO JOB THROUGH CREATION OF LIFE – GOD’S GREAT CREATION AND HIS PROVIDENTIAL CARE OVER IT!”

OBSERVATION

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.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

“THE LOVE OF GOD” - Frederick Lehman – Phelps, Penrod & Gardner

*The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, And reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win; His erring child He reconciled, And pardoned from his sin.*

Refrain: Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure— The saints’ and angels’ song.

*Could we with ink the ocean fill? And were the skies of parchment made, Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Though stretched from sky to sky. (Refrain)*

The Importance of Creation, which Exalts God’s Power, His Wisdom, His Purpose and His Love!

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

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart

Psa 139:13-17 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. [14] I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. [15] My frame (substance) was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought (woven together) in the lowest parts of the earth (the womb). [16] Your eyes saw (oversee as an architect) my substance (unformed embryo), being yet unformed (folded together). And in Your book they (my members) all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them. [17] How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them.

Psa 33:6-9; 13-15 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. [7] He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in storehouses. [8] Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. [9] For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast. [13] The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. [14] From the place of His dwelling He looks On all the inhabitants of the earth; [15] He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.

Psa 104:1-35 (The poet's version of Genesis – of God taking care of His creation – The poem gives an interpretation of many voices of nature, and sings sweetly of creation and providence The poem contains a complete cosmos: sea and land, cloud and sunlight, plant and animal, light and darkness, life and death, are all proved to be expressed, and though the creation of man, which was the crowning work of the sixth day are not mentioned, this is accounted for from the fact that man is himself the singer.)

[1] Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, [2] Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. [3] He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, [4] Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. [5] You who laid the foundations of the earth, So that it should not be moved forever, [6] covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains. [7] At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. [8] They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys, To the place which You founded for them. [9] You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth. [10] He sends the springs into the valleys; They flow among the hills. [11] They give drink to every beast of the field; The wild donkeys quench their thirst. [12] By them the birds of the heavens have their home; They sing among the branches. [13] He waters the hills from His upper chambers; The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works. [14] He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the service of man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, [15] And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart. [16] The trees of the LORD are full of sap, The cedars of Lebanon which He planted, [17] Where the birds make their nests; The stork has her home in the fir trees. [18] The high hills are for the wild goats; The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers. [19] He appointed the moon for seasons; The sun knows its going down. [20] You make darkness, and it is night, In which all the beasts of the forest creep about. [21] The young lions roar after their prey, And seek their food from God. [22] When the sun rises, they gather together And lie down in their dens. [23] Man goes out to his work And to his labor until the evening. [24] O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions— [25] This great and wide sea, In which are innumerable teeming things, Living things both small and great. [26] There the ships sail about; There is that Leviathan Which You have made to play there. [27] These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season. [28] What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. [29] You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. [30] You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth. [31] May the glory of the LORD endure forever; May the LORD rejoice in His works. [32] He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke. [33] I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. [34] May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD. [35] May sinners be consumed from the earth, And the wicked be no more. Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

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.”

MAN & THE ANIMALS: The Remarkable Record of Job. Pgs.106-109 - Henry Morris

God placed mankind in dominion over the plant and animal kingdom, but sin has marred this relationship. Instead of close harmony, as originally intended, most animals fear and dread man. Many have been ruthlessly exploited, and multitudes of species have become extinct.

It is significant that more of the questions asked by God in His science examination deal with the biological world than with the physical. Furthermore, all of them stress that **it is God Himself who cares for the animals**, an implied rebuke to men and women who have failed in this stewardship.

In Job 38:39-41, God asks questions about animal behavior and animal sustenance, embracing, carnivorous animals (e.g., the lion—Job 38:39-40), herbivorous animals (e.g., the horse – Job 39:19-25), birds of prey (e.g., the raven – Job 39:41), and even scavenger birds (the eagle or vulture – Job 39:27-30).

Extinct animals are also mentioned—most notably the wild ox (Job 39:9-12). The Hebrew word translated wild ox in this and other passages is believed to refer to the huge and fierce **aurochs, or wild ox**, which inhabited the Middle East and other regions, but is now extinct. God also notes the wild goat (Job 39:1), the deer (Job 39:1-4), the wild donkey (Job 39:5-8), the stork, some translations - peacock (Job 39:13), the ostrich (Job 39:13-18), the hawk (Job 38:26), and even the grasshopper (Job 39:20). By implication, all the other animals can be included in his expressed concern for these twelve representative animals. Later generations of these behavioral questions, and many of the great biological scientists of the past (Ray, Linnaeus, etc.) were, like physical scientists mentioned previously, creationists. Certain animals noted in God’s message are of somewhat doubtful identification (e.g., stork, ostrich) and may even be now unknown extinct animals, like the wild ox.

In one of his discourses, Job noted that God had created all the animals and that we could learn from them the reality of a Creator (Job 12:7-10). Eliphaz once referred to lions, but only in a passing comparison with the fate of the wicked (Job 4:10-11). Several other passing references to animals are found in the book (Job 6:5; 8:14; 9:26; 10:16; 20:16; 21:10; 24:3, 5; 28:7, 8; 30:1, 29; 31:20; 37:8) None of these however, show the slightest indication of concern for the animals as a part of God’s creation and man’s dominion.

Thus, God’s lengthy zoology lesson and examination is a sharp rebuke to those who lack knowledge and lack any feeling of responsibility of the remarkable kingdom of animals that God **created and for whom He made such amazing provisions** in nature.

A beautiful parallel passage is found in Psalms 104, which first speaks of creation and the flood (vv. 1-9) in similar fashion to the first portion of God’s message to Job. The rest of the Psalm (vv. 10-35) is a hymn of God’s providential care for all His creation. Furthermore, when Jesus Christ came into the world, his manger-bed was surrounded with the animals He had created. He later said: “Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?” (Luke 12:6). “Into your hand they are delivered,” God told Noah, yet how little most of us (even including Job), seem to care!

In God’s message to Job (and to us), eight verses deal with the early history of the earth, twenty-seven with the physical world as it functions today, and thirty-three verses with the nature and needs of the animals, not including the behemoth and the leviathan, which are treated in more detail than the others and which we discuss in the **Job chapters 40-41**.

All of these are part of God’s creation, giving clear testimony of His omniscience and omnipotence, His providential care for all His creatures, and an implied rebuke to men and women for failing to understand all this.

Furthermore, with God’s detailed reminder of how He cares for His creation, especially the animals, there is also a gentle rebuke to Job for thinking that God might have forgotten him! As the Lord Jesus said, just after He had noted that not even a sparrow could “fall on the ground without your Father” (Matt. 10:30) and that “You are of more value than many sparrows” (Matt. 10:31).

Therefore, God’s central message to Job, and to us, **is not an explanation of why the righteous suffer, but rather a revelation of who He is, His wisdom, His power and His love of us as demonstrated in Creation and continuing in the operation of the whole universe!** Afflictions that come our way can then be placed in proper context. We belong to Him, both by creation and by redemption, and He has the right to do with us whatever He wills. We can trust Him, no matter what comes our way in this life, knowing that in the balances of eternity the Judge of all the earth will do right.

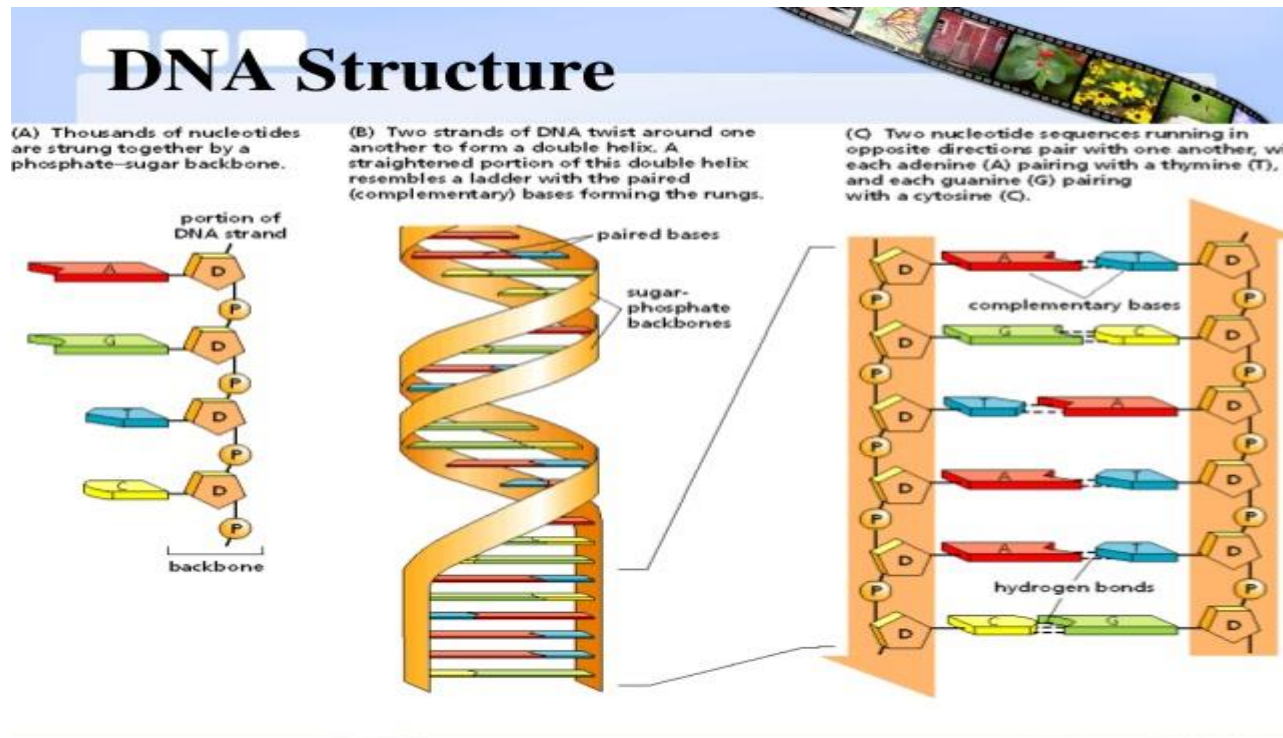
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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION



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

Definition and Structure – a digital code (A totally ordered sequence)!

DNA, which stands for **deoxyribonucleic acid**, is defined as a nucleic acid that contains the genetic code. All of the information in the DNA is in form of an orderly digital code. This precludes the possibility of the code happening by chance. Job, (& a question for us!) who designed and created and creates all of these cells? Each human body has 100 trillion cells and is replacing 50,000 cells every three seconds! We're absolutely miracles, you and I – fearfully and wonderfully made by our Creator God of the heavens!

Look at a single cell, which is more complex than the universe! It is **estimated the DNA molecule has a 100 million moving parts**. They are all atoms in one molecule. **You are made of 100 trillion cells**. Each one of those cells performs at least 10,000 chemical functions and has a trillion bits of data – each cell! We're finding out more and more down to the molecular level of the atomic structure. If you have 100 trillion cells in your body, each of which has all the information that is in the DNA in each of your cells which determine the characteristics of your body. The information in the DNA in each cell, if stretched out would be 4-6 feet long, per cell. You multiply that by 100 trillion, which means, in **your body you have 100 billion miles of information -- from the earth to the sun and back 400 times!** All the DNA in your systems, your genes, which if you could collect them, would fit inside an ice cube. This is just our body now, the throw away container – the fallen version! We'll all get upgrade when the LORD comes! Who knows what our glorified body will be like, when it's controlled by the Holy Spirit?

ORDERED SEQUENCE = OUTSIDE INTELLIGENCE (Reported conversation between Carl Sagan (unbelieving scientist) and Dr. A.E. Wildersmith (believing scientist))

A few years ago, Dr. Wildersmith asks Sagan, “Carl, why are you taking government money for your SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Project, using radar telescopes, listening to outer space? How will you know if you find intelligence?” Sagan, “**If I find an ordered sequence**, everything in the universe is random, that means, Wildersmith, that **there's outside Intelligence!**”

Wildersmith, “Sagan, let's do this. Put away your radar telescopes, come into the laboratory and look through an electron microscope at the helix of DNA and I will show you **an ordered sequence that proves there's outside intelligence!**”

Sagan refused to come. He knew he would see structured order.

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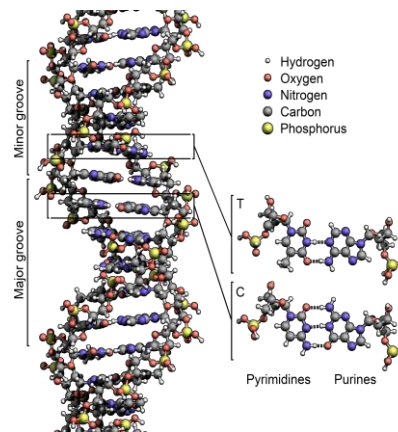
INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Chapter 38:36

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

DNA Definition and Structure – a digital code! All of the information in the DNA is in form of an orderly digital code. This precludes the possibility of the code happening by chance.



v. 36 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 asked 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, 16, 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. Indeed, *it is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter* (**Pro 25:2**). **Psa 139:13-16** *Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart?* Look at a single cell. It is **estimated the DNA molecule has a 100 million moving parts**. They are all atoms in one molecule. **You are made of 100 trillion cells**. Each one of those cells performs at least 10,000 chemical functions and has a trillion bits of data – each cell! We’re finding out more and more down to the molecular level and the atomic structure. If you have 100 trillion cells, each of which has all the information that is in the DNA in each of your cells which determine the characteristics of your body. The information in the DNA in each cell, if stretched out would be 4-6 feet long, per cell. You multiply that by 100 trillion, which means, in **your body you have 100 billion miles of information -- from the earth to the sun and back 400 times!** All the DNA in your systems, your genes, which if you could collect them, would fit inside an ice cube. This is just our body now, the throw away container – the fallen version! We’ll all get such an upgrade when the LORD comes! Who knows what our glorified body will be like, when it’s controlled by the Holy Spirit?

Epigenetics, as a simplified definition, is the study of biological mechanisms that will switch genes on and off.

Consider the human bones, whose tubular structure, are strong as steel as far as flexibility. **Humans are born with nearly 300 bones, but most adults have around 206** Where do those extra bones go? **The simple answer is nowhere, but many of them grow together as a person ages.** The human skeleton begins to develop 13 to 16 weeks after conception. At birth, a human has about **300 bones and cartilage elements**, and many bones that will eventually fuse together are still separate, although joined by tough membranes. The malleable nature of cartilage allows for a baby’s easier passage through the birth canal. As an adult, the skull consists of 26 cranial and facial bones fused together along unmovable joints called sutures, with the exception of the mandible, or jaw, which is attached at a moveable joint. At birth, many of those bones are not yet fused and instead are joined by fibrous membranes called fontanelles. The fontanelles are the so-called “soft spot” on an infant’s head. Eventually the fontanelles close as the bones grow together, resulting in an **adult bone count of around 206!**

The Durability of the Human Heart:

Or who has given understanding to the heart? **Physically** the heart is the most awesome circulating pump! The number of heartbeats (@70/min x 60 x 24 = **100,800 beats/day**; x 365.25 = **36,817,200 per year**; lifetime @ 80 years = about **2.95 billion beats!!** **Emotionally** we speak of the feelings in the heart. Job, who put those feeling and emotional characteristics in the human heart? Job why do you feel the way you do?

v. 36 Job 9:4 *God is wise in heart and mighty in strength. Who has hardened himself against Him and prospered?*

Psa 51:6 *Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.*

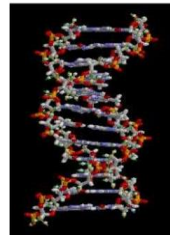
Jas 1:5 *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

Eph 1:11 *In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.*

DNA – A Digital Code!

All of the information in the DNA is in form of an orderly digital code. This precludes the possibility of the code happening by chance.

DNA Structure



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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 38:37 Who can number the clouds by wisdom? Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven,

Job 38:38 When the dust hardens in clumps, And the clods cling together?

Job 38:39 "Can you hunt the prey for the lion, Or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,

Job 38:40 When they crouch in their dens, Or lurk in their lairs to lie in wait?

Job 38:41 Who provides food for the raven, When its young ones cry to God, And wander about for lack of food?

Job 39:1 "Do you know the time when the wild mountain goats bear young? Or can you mark when the deer gives birth?

Job 39:2 Can you number the months that they fulfill? Or do you know the time when they bear young?

Job 39:3 They bow down, They bring forth their young, They deliver their offspring.

vs. 37-38 *Who can number the clouds by wisdom?* 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. 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. **We totally must to depend on Him!**

vs. 39-40 *Can you hunt prey for the lion:* Now the Lord moves from the physical aspects of the universe to the wonder of animal life and their creation. Job, can you feed the lions, even a single lion? What God does now is to ask questions about ten different animals.

v. 41 *Who provides food for the raven:* God provides food for the birds (Mat 6:26); “The choice is somewhat random, as if God is saying, ‘Here are only a few specimens of all my creatures, great and small, winged and earthbound, wild and tamed – but **all are under my care and dominion**. It would be impossible for Job or any other man to do so. God here is reminding Job of the distance between Himself and Job.

vs. 1-2 *Do you know the time when the wild mountain goats bear young?* God continues to bring the level of knowledge down for Job. Possibly Job could know such facts of nature from simple observation. Yet even this relatively low level of knowledge was beyond Job. God is **probably talking about the Nubian Ibex**, which lives in the wilderness regions of the Middle East. When they bear their young, they go into a hiding place. As recently as 1979, it was reported that only a few people had ever witnessed this Ibex bearing their young. Job, who put that characteristic in that animal? God has **designed each animal with its own gestation period**. One of the shortest is the opossum-12-13 days; porcupine-112 days; black bear-220 days; gorillas 8.5 months; Elephants have the longest gestation period of all mammals. These gentle giants' pregnancies last for more than a year and a half. The average gestation period of an elephant is about 640 to 660 days, or roughly 95 weeks. **Only God can cause the incredible variation in the gestation period** of each animal, just to demonstrate His power and His wisdom!

vs. 3-4 *They bow down (squat), they bring forth their young:* God reminded Job of the arrangement of growth and maturity He had engineered for the natural order. God has designed into various animal's different times of the need for care following birth. The **offspring of an ibex doe**, unlike human infants that need years of care, **can stand within minutes of birth and soon go off on its on to thrive** in the wild.

vs. 37-38 Job, can you number the clouds that send rain to the earth? No one, no man can do this. No man, only the Lord. *or who can pour out the bottles of heaven?* Who can do this, when it is the will of God to withhold them? To stop or *pour out*, those bottles, to restrain rain, or *pour* it forth, is **entirely at His will and pleasure, and not man's**.

vs. 39-40 God moved from the distant expanse of the constellations, down to the clouds, down to the human mind, and here still further down to simple animal instinct such as the ability to hunt prey for the lion. **Job could not provide food for even one single lion; therefore it was presumptuous for him to demand answers from God the way that he did.**

v. 41 Not man, but God feeds the ravens, creatures very voracious, mean, and useless. **When the young ones cry unto God for want of food, the Lord in His mercy and interprets as a cry unto Him, and He relieves them. Job, as one created in My image, are you not much more than the ravens?**

39: v. 1 All these questions brought Job before another truth: I see that this world made by God, operates with remarkable order and wisdom; can I deny His wisdom and government of all things just because there are things in my own life I can't understand? Or, should I (and we) simply trust this God who does all these other things so marvelously well?" v. 2 Though Job didn't know these principles of the natural order, at the same time he had to admit that the natural order all seemed to work extraordinarily well. It all just speaks of how great God's power is, and how infinite His wisdom is! And how great He is!

v. 3 Did Job (or could we) design this, or even know much about it?

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OBSERVATION

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 39:4 Their young ones are healthy, They grow strong with grain; They depart and do not return to them.

Job 39:5 "Who set the wild donkey free? Who loosed the bonds of the onager,

Job 39:6 Whose home I have made the wilderness, And the barren land his dwelling?

Job 39:7 He scorns the tumult of the city; He does not heed the shouts of the driver.

Job 39:8 The range of the mountains is his pasture, And he searches after every green thing.

Job 39:9 "Will the wild ox be willing to serve you? Will he bed by your manger?

Job 39:10 Can you bind the wild ox in the furrow with ropes? Or will he plow the valleys behind you?

Job 39:11 Will you trust him because his strength is great? Or will you leave your labor to him?

Job 39:12 Will you trust him to bring home your grain, And gather it to your threshing floor?

v. 4 In His genius, God has put into each creature those characteristics that He desires. What a difference in the treatment of the newly born in various animals. Some newborns leave their parents very early and begin to forage on their own. It's interesting that the human being is probably one of the most helpless of all newborn creatures, totally depending on their parents. God made then to do that!

vs. 5-6 *Who set the wild donkey free?* The *onager* is a name of a species of the wild donkey, which differ from tame donkeys only in their independence and liberty, and in their being stronger and more nimble. In their shape they are the same. The wild donkey was admired for both its freedom and its ability to survive under the harshest conditions. It was a compliment and a promise of an enviable freedom when the angel declared that Ishmael (Gen 16:12) would become 'a wild donkey of a man.'

vs. 7-8 *He scorns the tumult of the city.* If they attempt to take him, and in order to do that, they surround him with a multitude, he will soon get clear of them. The crying of the driver is nothing to him. He laughs at those that live in the tumult and bustle of cities. ***The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searches after every green thing:*** God designed and knew how the wild donkey lived on scant amounts of food and water, and was provided for; Job obviously did not. Only God, who has designed each animal knows why so weak and harmless a creature as the wild donkey should be untamable, when the most savage lions and tigers have been tamed, and how there comes to be so vast a difference between the tame and the wild donkey.

v. 9 *Will the wild ox be willing to serve you?* The **Wild ox** is most likely referring to the **aurochs**. Extinct since 1627, this enormous animal was the most powerful of all hoofed beasts, exceeded in size only by the hippopotamus and the elephant. It is **the standard symbol of strength** in the Old Testament, where it is mentioned nine times."

v. 10 *Can you bind the wild ox in the furrow with ropes?* Understanding the fearsome nature of this ancient wild ox, God here made a humorous picture for Job. One might just as easily picture Job using a rhino to plow his field or put into his barn. There are creatures that are willing to serve man, that seem to take a pleasure in serving him, and to have a love for their masters; but there are such as will never be brought to serve him, which is the effect of sin.

vs. 11-12 Because God so designed, the wild ox will not draw the plow. A disposition to work is as much the gift of God as an ability for it. God has designed some beasts to work and some that may justly be reckoned wild and abandoned to the deserts who have no mind either to take pains or to do good.

There are several breeds of cattle, having the highest percentage of aurochs genetic material, which the scientists use, including the Maremmana from Italy and Podolica and Busha breed from the Balkans, to breed large cattle resembling the ancient aurochs.

v. 4 But with a human child, there is that total dependency upon the parents, for a long period of time. Not just for a few weeks but maybe stretching to twenty years or more. How much more are we dependent on the Lord our whole lifetime?

vs. 5-6 Job had no knowledge of these facts of nature; he had even less power over the animals. These things, the oddities of the various animals belonged to God and not to Job.

vs. 7-8 From man's inability to tame this and other creatures, we may infer how unfit we are to give law to Providence, who cannot give law even to a wild donkey's colt.

vs. 9-10 No one would doubt that Job was smarter than a wild ox; yet the ox would not serve him. He lacked in both knowledge of and mastery over the natural world. Job, can you domesticate this wild animal?

vs. 11-12 It is a great mercy for us where God gives strength for service, He gives a heart. It is what we should pray for, and reason ourselves into, which the animals cannot do.



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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 39:13 "The wings of the ostrich wave proudly, But are her wings and pinions like the kindly stork's?"

Job 39:14 For she leaves her eggs on the ground, And warms them in the dust;

Job 39:15 She forgets that a foot may crush them, Or that a wild beast may break them.

Job 39:16 She treats her young harshly, as though they were not hers; Her labor is in vain, without concern,

Job 39:17 Because God deprived her of wisdom, And did not endow her with understanding.

Job 39:18 When she lifts herself on high, She scorns the horse and its rider.

Job 39:19 "Have you given the horse strength? Have you clothed his neck with thunder?"

Job 39:20 Can you frighten him like a locust? His majestic snorting strikes terror.

v. 13 *The wings of the ostrich wave proudly:* God here spoke of the **proudly** waving **wings** of the flightless **ostrich**. Perhaps Job could explain why a flightless bird has wings, or why a winged creature is flightless? Some have called the ostrich a winged camel! Compare that to the wing of a stork, whose wings enable them not only to fly but to carry a significant weight! This humorous passage is remarkable in that it is the only real humor in the book of *Job*. It's something that only God can do - pull a stunt like this, forcing a smile out of Job at a time when the poor fellow has been so intent on his misery.

vs. 14-16 *she leaves her eggs on the ground, And warms them in the dust;* The carelessness of her young is something that is peculiar to itself. How she cares for her eggs, not retiring to some private place, and make a nest there, as the sparrows and swallows do (**Psa 84:3**), and there lay eggs and hatch her young. Most birds, as well as other animals, are strangely guided by natural instinct in providing for the preservation of their young. But **the ostrich is a monster in nature, for she drops her eggs any where upon the ground and takes no care to hatch them**. If the sand and the sun will hatch them, well and good; they may for her, for she will not warm them. She takes no care to preserve them. They can be crushed by the feet those who pass by. But how then are any young ones brought forth, and whence is it that the species has not perished? We must suppose either that God, by a special providence, with the heat of the sun and the sand (so some think), hatches the neglected eggs of the ostrich, as he feeds the neglected young ones of the raven, or that, though the ostrich often leaves her eggs thus, yet not always. She exposes her eggs because God has not given her want of natural affection. **She treats her young harshly as though they were not hers!** Her labor in laying her eggs is in vain and all lost, because she has not that fear and tender concern for them that she should have.

v. 17 *Because God has deprived her of wisdom:* God reminds Job that He is the dispenser of wisdom; The ostrich is as dumb as can be. Only God can design the incredible differences in each of the animal species! **He gives or withholds as pleases Him**. The seeming cruelty to her young seems similar to the practice of driving off the yearlings when mating season arrives.

v. 18 *She leaves her eggs in danger, but, if she herself encounters danger, no creature shall strive more to get out of the way of it than the ostrich. When in danger she lifts herself on high,* raises herself to a height up to 8 feet, for her rapid flight from danger at speeds of 40 miles per hour. She assumes a lofty courage and bearing and takes off so fast that a fearless warhorse cannot overtake her: **She scorns the horse and its rider**. Let not the rider be proud of the swiftness of his horse when such an animal as the ostrich can out-run him.

v. 19 *Have you given the horse strength?* Like many, Job could be impressed with the majestic strength of the warhorse. Yet Job had no strength to give the horse; it came from God and not from Job or any other man. **Have you clothed his neck with thunder?** His neck and nostrils look great. His neck is **clothed with thunder**, with a large and flowing mane, which makes him formidable and is an ornament to him.

v. 20 *Can you frighten him like a locust* (grasshopper)? The horse defies being frightened! **His majestic snorting strikes terror** when he snorts, flings up his head, and throws foam all around. He is very fierce and furious in battle, and charges with an undaunted courage, pushing on in imminent danger of his life.

v. 13 The ostrich is what it is, a silly bird, because God made it so. Why? The comical account suggests that amid the profusion of creatures some were made to be useful to men, but some are there just for God's entertainment and ours.

vs. 14-16 Notice that God did not give the ostrich a maternal instinct – **She treats her young harshly! God demonstrates in these questions to Job that He alone has created each animal in the way He wanted. He is God! We're not!**

v. 17 It was through wonderful and strange examples like the ostrich that God both taught and entertained Job. "Get used to My absurdity, and live by faith rather than by sight. Be like the ostrich: though you cannot fly, you can still flap your wings joyfully!"

v. 18 Those that are least under the law of natural affection often contend most for the law of self-preservation.

vs. 19-20 God, having displayed His own power in those creatures that are strong and despise man, here shows it in one scarcely inferior to any of them in strength, and yet very tame with undaunted courage and serviceable to man, and that is the horse, especially the horse that is prepared against the day of battle. **Job, have you (or any man) given the horse strength?**

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

<p><i>Job 39:21 He paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength; He gallops into the clash of arms.</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:22 He mocks at fear, and is not frightened; Nor does he turn back from the sword.</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:23 The quiver rattles against him, The glittering spear and javelin.</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:24 He devours the distance with fierceness and rage; Nor does he come to a halt because the trumpet has sounded.</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:25 At the blast of the trumpet he says, 'Aha!' He smells the battle from afar, The thunder of captains and shouting.</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:26 "Does the hawk fly by your wisdom, And spread its wings toward the south?"</i></p> <p><i>Job 39:27 Does the eagle mount up at your command, And make its nest on high?</i></p>	<p>v. 21 <i>He paws in the valley</i>, scarcely knowing what ground he stands upon. He is proud of his strength, and he has much more reason to be so as using his strength in the service of man, and under his direction, than the wild donkey that uses it in contempt of man in a revolt from him.</p> <p>vs. 22-23 <i>He mocks at fear, and is not frightened; nor does he turn back from the sword:</i> See how fearless he is, how he despises death and the most threatening dangers. Slash at him with a sword, rattle the <i>quiver</i>, brandish the <i>spear</i>, to drive him back, he will not retreat, but press forward, and even inspires courage into his rider. Job could give no explanation for the fearless, warrior nature of a horse, which operates against reason and the self-interest of the horse itself, which is eager to enter into the battle.</p> <p>vs. 24-25 See how anxious he is to engage in the battle. He goes on to meet the armed men, motivated, not by the goodness of the cause, or the chance of honor, but only by <i>the blast of the trumpet, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting</i> of the soldiers, which are as bellows to the fire of his innate courage, and make him spring forward with the utmost eagerness, as if he cried, <i>'Aha!'</i></p> <p>v. 26 <i>Does the hawk fly by your wisdom:</i> After considering many land animals and the wisdom and mystery surrounding them, now God turned to a majestic bird – the hawk. Job could not explain, much less create the mechanics of flight for this noble bird. This bird is here notes for her flight, which is swift and strong, and especially for the course she steers <i>towards the south</i>, whither she follows the sun in winter, out of the colder countries in the north, especially when she is to cast her plumes and renew them. This is her wisdom, and it was God that gave her this wisdom, not man.</p> <p>THE GOLDEN PLOVER The golden plover likes to mate and raise its young up in the Aleutian Islands. In springtime, the golden plovers will fly from Hawaii, a couple of thousand miles over the ocean, without any landmarks to the Aleutian Islands, where they will mate, build their nests, hatch their eggs, incubate their young. Come fall, as winter is approaching, the golden plovers will begin to eat a lot, build up the fat in their bodies and then they will begin their flight to Hawaii. Without any navigational charts, and really it is a mystery how they do navigate. I'd hate to try and find Hawaii, without navigational charts and all, without a compass. If you say, “they’ve been there before”, consider the little newborn plovers who are not yet strong enough to leave for Hawaii, when their parents take off. They need to spend an extra six weeks or so in the Aleutians, building up more strength and more fat before they begin their flight, then, the babies take off! Never having been there, and they fly to Hawaii. Explain that to me! God’s saying to Job, how do you explain that? Who put the wisdom there? Who, who placed all of that capacity and all, and the migratory habits of birds, flying <i>toward the south</i> in the winter?”</p> <p>v. 27 <i>Does the eagle mount up at your command:</i> The <i>eagle</i>, a royal bird, and yet a bird of prey too, the permission of which may help to reconcile us to the prosperity of oppressors among men. The eagle is here taken notice of, for the height of her flight. No bird soars so high, has so strong a wind, nor can see so well or bear the light of the sun. Is it by any strength she has from you, Job? Do you direct her flight and nesting place, instinctively to high elevation? Again, the answer is No!</p>	<p>v. 21 <i>The comparison between the horse, which is man’s friend, so brave and courageous to serve and the wild donkey, which scorns man and has been created to be untamable! What a Creator we serve!</i></p> <p>vs. 22-23 Job could give no explanation for the warrior nature of a horse, <i>which devours the distance with fierceness and rage</i>, reason and the self-interest of the horse itself, which is eager to enter into the battle.</p> <p>vs. 24-25 He is eager to get into the battle! Nothing frightens him! Braveness is the praise of a horse rather than of a man, whom fierceness pales and fear arises. Here we see God putting great fearlessness into this animal, the horse! How brave are we in our spiritual battles?</p> <p>v. 26 Majestically she stretches her <i>wings toward the south</i> - Mentioned here is the speed the hawk can fly, also it instinct to migrate during seasonal change. In no way is this remarkable instinct which leads the feathered tribes to seek more pleasant climates at the approach of winter. to be accounted for, except by the fact that God has so appointed it. This great law of the winged hawks is one of the clearest proofs of divine wisdom and agency.</p> <p>v. 27 It is by the natural power and instinct God has given her that she will soar out of ones’ sight, much more out of your call. Job was equally powerless to explain the eagle and its ways, much less to command it. Everywhere you look you see creation, which speaks of a creator, which then speaks of a designer. And that Creator and Designer is God!</p>
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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 39:28 On the rock it dwells and resides, On the crag of the rock and the stronghold.

Job 39:29 From there it spies out the prey; Its eyes observe from afar.

Job 39:30 Its young ones suck up blood; And where the slain are, there it is."

vs. 28-29 For the strength of her nest. Her house is her castle and strong-hold; she makes it on high and *on the crag of the rock*, which sets her and her young out of the reach of danger. For her great eyesight, which is 8 times that of a human. *Her eyes observe from afar*, not upwards, but downwards, in quest of her prey. When an eagle takes a mate, which are monogamous unless one partner dies early, the two really do fall for each other—in a spectacular, plummeting courtship ritual. The maneuver is known as the cartwheel display or death spiral. The two soar up to high altitude, lock talons, and tumble and cartwheel toward Earth.” They let go before reaching the ground and are then married! Quite different than man’s weddings!

v. 30 For the way she has of maintaining herself and her young. She preys upon living animals, which she seizes and tears to pieces, and thence carries to her young ones, which are taught to *suck up blood*; they do it by instinct, and know no better; but for men that have reason and conscience to thirst after blood is what could scarcely be believed if there had not been in every age wretched instances of it. She also preys upon the dead bodies of men: *Where the slain are, there it is*, These birds of prey, in another sense than the horse, *smell the battle afar off*. Therefore, when a great slaughter is to be made among the enemies of the church, the fowls are invited to *the supper of the great God, to eat the flesh of kings and captains*, Rev 19:17, 18. Our Savior refers to this instinct of the eagle, Mat 24:28. *Wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together*. Every creature will make towards that which is its proper food; for He that provides the creatures their food has implanted in them that inclination. These and many such instances of natural power and wise discernment in the inferior creatures, which we cannot account for, oblige us to confess our own weakness and ignorance and to give glory to God as the fountain of all being, power, wisdom, and perfection.



vs. 28-29 God has given the eagle its instinct to establish it’s nest on high and from there spy out its prey! Notice the genius of God – the ability to soar and nest on high and given ii such great eyesight (8 times that of humans!) that it can spot its prey from afar!

v. 30 Amazingly created, the eagle survives primarily on blood and not on water! This thirst for blood draws them to the places where blood is shed!

Summary: We see Job’s why question is never answered. God does not specifically give us explanation, that frees us; but it’s revelation! Job was brought into the presence of a sovereign, majestic, omnipotent, all-powerful, genius, God!

Job, I control the universe, the stars and the planets. The creation was not just what I wanted but it was for you and all mankind. What about you? Do you know all that’s inside you, Job? When you consider how I look down even to the molecular level and the care that is there, the plan, the wisdom and the all knowing genius that is there, that I don’t know all about you in your life and care for you, Job?

Indeed, Job, you are more important than all the animals! You’re the part of creation that created in My image! You’re the part whom I gave my only Son, so you could be My own!

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