Job 38-41

Review…

- Chapters 1-2 – A conversation in Heaven…
  - Satan TWICE came before the Lord – and demanded to TEST Job…
  - But Job did NOT sin – either in his ACTIONS or with his WORDS!
- Chapters 3-37 – The wisdom of men…
  - Broken up into FOUR rounds of debates – the FRIST THREE between Job and his friends…
  - After each FRIEND gave their OPINION – Job responded and defend himself…
  - final Expect the round – Elihu – a young man gives just his opinion!
- Chapters 38-42 – The wisdom of God!

God SPEAKS… (3 POINTS)

- **1st – The LORD of CREATION… Job 38:1 –**
  - Me… ANSWER vs. 1-3
    - The LORD… vs. 1

- Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind:
  - Out of the STORM that Elihu had seen coming – the LORD answered JOB!
  - There are several names used in the Old Testament for GOD…
  - [אֵל] or [אֱלוֹהַּ] – generic name for god [most common word for God in Job]
  - [אֱלֹהִים] - Elohim [the plural of El] – 2606x in OT – refers to His plural NATURE…
  - [אֲדֹנָי] - Adonai – Lord – 434x in OT - refers to His AUTHORITY!
  - [יְהוָה] - YHVH – LORD – 6519x in OT - refers to His CHARACTER…
- Throughout the SECOND section of the book – [יְהוָה] has been ABSENT…
  - The FIVE men had just been giving their OPINIONS about [אֵל] …
  - Now [יְהוָה] is going to tell them EXACTLY who the LORD is!

▪ QUESTIONS… vs. 2-3

- Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words…
- Brace yourself like a man because I have some questions for you - you must answer them!
- Job had QUESTIONED the LORD – so now the LORD would question Job…
- He will do so by going back to CREATION – showing His power in FOUR ways…
- The EARTH – the SKY – the HEAVENS – and the ANIMALS He created!

○ 1st – The EARTH… vs. 4-18

▪ The FOUNDATION… vs. 4-7

- Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth…
- Tell [imperative] Me if you know so much!
- Who determined its dimensions and stretched out the surveying line…
- What supports its foundations - and who laid its cornerstone!
- Going back to the beginning – WHERE was Job when God created the earth – **Genesis 1:1**
- In a universe with 200 BILLION galaxies – each with BILLIONS of stars…
- And more than likely each of those STARS having numerous PLANETS [ours has EIGHT] …
- Only our little blue green spec in the cosmos gets the honor of being NAMED – the EARTH!
- Because the EARTH is UNIQUE – nothing else like it - 12,742km wide…
- With a 23.5° tilt – allowing for 85% of the earth to be HABITABLE…
- Perfectly placed - 149 million km from the sun – in the GOLDILOCKS zone [liquid water]
- Everything about the earth is perfectly DESIGNED to sustain life!
- Oxford university study 2018 - concluded we are likely alone in the knowable universe!
- They used realistic variables for the Drake equation – $1x0.8^{-34}$ probability of alien life!
- From a Biblical perspective there CANNOT be aliens – other inhabited planets…
- Because ALL of creation was cursed at the fall of Adam – **Romans 8:20**
- As the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy!
- ONLY a handful of verses in the Bible hint WHEN angels were created – **Psalm 104:4-5**
- Angels WERE created **Colossians 1:16** – they could NOT have existed before **Genesis 1:1**
- It would seem God made them BEFORE He laid the FOUNDATIONS of the EARTH – Day 3!

▪ The OCEANS… vs. 8-11

- Who kept the sea inside its boundaries as it burst from the womb…
- And as I clothed it with clouds and wrapped it in thick darkness…
- For I locked it behind barred gates - limiting its shores…
- I said - this far and no farther will you come. Here your proud waves must stop!
- WHERE was Job - when God limited the boundaries of the OCEANS…
- We never worry if the OCEAN is going to take over our CITIES…

- Yet if ALL the ice on earth melted – the OCEANS would rise 270 meters!

- The SUNRISE… vs. 12-15
  - Have you ever commanded the morning to appear and caused the dawn to rise in the east…
  - Have you made daylight spread over the earth - bring an end to the nights wickedness…
  - As the light approaches - the earth takes shape - it is robed in brilliant colors…
  - The light disturbs the wicked and stops the arm that is raised in violence!
  - Had Job ever COMMANDED the sun to rise in the morning…
  - Bringing the LIGHT that causes [niphal] the WICKED to stop what they were doing!
  - Light that PAINTS the earth in brilliant masterpiece of colors!
  - Suppose an artist painted a beautiful masterpiece - and gave it to us as a gift…
  - But when people came over to admire it - we claimed we were the painter...
  - First of all - the artist would not be happy we stole credit for his work…
  - Secondly - if we were asked to make another painting - we would be in trouble!
  - When – like Job – we try and take COMMAND of our lives…
  - We steal from God the credit He deserves - and that does not make Him happy...
  - It also puts us in an awkward position - we cannot duplicate His work!

- The DEPTHS… vs. 16-18
  - Have you explored the springs from which the seas come - have you explored their depths…
  - Do you know where the gates of death are located - seen the gates of utter gloom…
  - Do you realize the extent of the earth - tell [imperative] Me about it if you know!
  - Had Job ENTERED the depth of the SEAS…
  - Average depth of the ocean is 3.7km – Mariana trench is 11km deep - first measured 1875
  - Did Job know where the GATES of death – the place where the DEAD go…
  - Apparently - the GATES of death – are in the CENTER of the EARTH!
  - In OT everyone went to the Grave [שְׁאֹלָה] – two parts - **Luke 16:22-23**
  - A place of comfort for those who died in faith [paradise] - thief on the cross – **Luke 23:43**
  - Or a place of torment for those who did not have faith [Hell] …
  - After the death of Jesus - He went down and set free those who died in faith – **Isaiah 61:1**
  - Whom Jesus then took with Him to heaven - **Ephesians 4:8 / Matthew 27:52**
  - Now only Hell remains as a holding place for those who reject faith in Jesus!
  - One day Hell will give up its dead to stand before the White Throne - **Revelation 20:1**
  - The final destination for them will be the Lake of Fire - **Matthew 25:41**

- 2nd – The SKY… vs. 19-30

  - The LIGHTS… vs. 19-21
    - Where does light come from - and where does darkness go…
    - Can you take each to its home - do you know how to get there…
    - But of course you know all this! For you were born before it was all created…
    - And you are so very experienced!
    - For most of human history – light was assumed to be instantaneous…
    - Yet God here points out the light is FINITE – it has a SPEED…
    - Light travels at 3 MILLION meters per second – not recorded until 1676!
    - But of course Job KNEW this [sarcasm] – he must have been there when God created it!

  - The WEATHER… vs. 22-30
    - Have you visited the storehouses of the snow or seen the storehouses of hail…
      - I have reserved them as weapons for the time of trouble - for the day of battle and war!

- God has used HAIL as a weapon on a number of occasions…
- The SEVENTH plague of Egypt – **Exodus 9:13-35**
- The victory of Joshua over the FIVE kings – **Joshua 10:11**
- And God will send 35kg hail during the Great Tribulation – **Revelation 16:21**

- How is light scattered [refraction] - where is the home of the east wind [jet stream] …
  - Who created a channel for the torrents of rain - who laid out the path for the lightning…
  - Who makes the rain fall on barren land - in a desert where no one lives…
  - Who sends rain to satisfy the parched ground and make the tender grass spring up…
  - Does the rain have a father - who gives birth to the dew…
  - Who is the mother of the ice - who gives birth to the frost from the heavens…
  - For the water turns to ice as hard as rock - and the surface of the water freezes!
  - Here God describes the JET STREAM – not discovered till 1920s…
  - East WINDS that circle the whole earth – causing the WATER cycle…
  - Water gets picked up from the OCEANS – and dropped of DRY land…
  - Which then follows CHANNELS [rivers] back to the ocean!

- 3rd – The HEAVENS… vs. 31-38

  - The MAZZAROTH… vs. 31-32

    - Can you direct the movement of the stars…
    - Binding the cluster of the Pleiades or loosening the belt of Orion…
    - Can you bring out the Mazzaroth in its season – or guide the great Bear with her cubs
    - What we call the Zodiac today – is a perversion of the Hebrew Mazzaroth…
    - TWELVE CONSTELLATIONS - the story of the Gospel written in the STARS [Signs in the Heavens – Missler]
    - Could Job TIE together the Pleiades – seven sisters [stars] – also known as Taurus…
    - Loosen – separate the stars in the belt of Orion – [כְּסִיל]
    - Or guide the BEAR - Ursa Major [Latin for bear] – also known as the Big Dipper!
    - If we look up in the night sky – STAR do NOT seem to move…
    - But all STARS are moving – the fastest recorded at 30,000km per second!

  - Laws of NATURE… vs. 33-38

    - Do you know the laws of the universe - can you use them to regulate the earth…
    - Can you shout to the clouds and make it rain…
    - Can you make lightning appear and cause it to strike as you direct…
    - Who gives intuition to the heart and instinct to the mind…
    - Who is wise enough to count all the clouds - who can tilt the water jars of heaven…
    - When the parched ground is dry - and the soil has hardened into clods!

    - Did Job KNOW all these LAW of NATURE – the EARTH / SKY / HEAVENS…
    - Even if he did KNOW them – did he have ANY control over them…
    - Could he shout to the CLOUD and make the RAIN come down on DRY ground!
    - If he could not even do that – why did Job think he could UNDERSTAND God…
    - Who ALONE can bring WISDOM to the heart and UNDERSTANDING to the mind!

- 4th – The Animals… Job 38:39 – 39:30

  - The Lion and Raven… vs. 39-41

    - Can you stalk prey for a lioness - and satisfy the young lions appetites…
    - As they lie in their dens or crouch in the thicket!
    - Who provides food for the ravens when their young cry out to God and wander in hunger!

- Could Job provide FOOD for Lions – we assume they could take care of themselves…
- Or Ravens - an unclean bird / an abomination – **Leviticus 11:13-15**
- A Jew would not have cared if a RAVEN lived or died - but God cares for the RAVENS!
- We never worry whether the little RATS had enough food to eat today!
- Yet God does care - He looks after something we despise - could care less about…
- If God makes sure the RATS have enough to eat - if He cares for them...
- How much more will He make sure His children have food to eat!
- **Luke 12:24** - "Look at the ravens. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for God feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than any birds!"

▪ The Goat… vs. 1-4

- Do you know when the wild goats give birth- have you watched as deer are born…
- How many months do they carry their young - are you aware of the time of their delivery…
- They crouch down to give birth to their young - and deliver their offspring…
- Their young grow up in the open fields - then leave home and never return!
- A mountain goat is pregnant for SIX months – but the kids can walk on their own in a day…
- But mountain goats live on steep – high – mountains inaccessible to men…
- The thought is God knows the LIFE cycle of an animal Job had likely never SEEN!
- Because we are NOT going to see EVERYTHING that God is doing!

▪ The Donkey… vs. 5-8

- Who gives the wild donkey its freedom - who untied its ropes…
- I have placed it in the wilderness - its home is the wasteland…
- It hates the noise of the city and has no driver to shout at it…
- The mountains are its pastureland - where it searches for every blade of grass!
- They DONKEY was the preferred VEHICLE of the ancient world…
- They provided a cheap and effective way to transport goods…
- Yet they HATE the noise of the CITY – the shout of the DRIVER…
- They prefer to wander in the mountains – nibbling on blades of grass!
- The thought is God does not ALWAYS give us what we WANT!

▪ The Ox… vs. 9-12

- Will the wild ox consent to being tamed - will it spend the night in your stall…
- Can you hitch a wild ox to a plow - will it plow a field for you…
- Given its strength - can you trust it - can you leave and trust the ox to do your work…
- Can you rely on it to bring home your grain and deliver it to your threshing floor!
- Wild OX - [unicorn KJV] – likely a reference to an Auroch…
- Auroch – extinct coq that could weigh 1500kg – stand almost 2 meters high!
- Although they were powerful – they were NO more tamable than a hippopotamus!
- Simple POINT – we are NOT always going to be in CONTROL!

▪ The Ostrich… vs. 13-18

- The ostrich flaps her wings grandly - but they are no match for the feathers of the stork…
- She lays her eggs on top of the earth - letting them be warmed in the dust…
- She does not worry that a foot might crush - them or a wild animal might destroy them…
- She is harsh toward her young - as if they were not her own - she does not care if they die…
- For God has deprived her of wisdom. He has given her no understanding…
- But whenever she jumps up to run - she passes the swiftest horse with its rider!
- God points out the VERY odd nature of an Ostrich…

- They have WINGS – but do not FLY – yet they run FASTER than a horse…
- They lay EGGS – but then forget [imperfect] about them – not caring if they live of die…
- They are HARDENED [hiphil / perfect] against their young…
- Because God had DEPRIVED them of their WISDOM – given no UNDERSTANDING!
- At this point you might start to feel like you are watching a NATURE program…
- But God is using ANIMALS to reveal different aspects of His NATURE!
- One of the MOST powerful POINTS - WISDOM and UNDERSTANDING come ONLY from Him!

▪ The horse… vs. 19-25

- Have you given the horse its strength or clothed its neck with a flowing mane…
- Did you give it the ability to leap like a locust - its majestic snorting is terrifying!
- It paws the earth and rejoices in its strength when it charges out to battle…
- It laughs at fear and is unafraid. It does not run from the sword…
- The arrows rattle against it - and the spear and javelin flash…
- It paws the ground fiercely and rushes forward into battle when the rams horn blows…
- It snorts at the sound of the horn. It senses the battle in the distance…
- It quivers at the captains commands and the noise of battle!
- How could Job explain a HORSE – who charges into battle…
- While men cower at the sound of the war SHOFAR [שׁוֹפָר] – the horse if FEARLESS…
- Because even BRAVERY is something that comes from the Lord!

▪ The Hawk and Eagle… vs. 26-30

- Is it your wisdom that makes the hawk soar and spread its wings toward the south…
- Is it at your command that the eagle rises to the heights to make its nest…
- It lives on the cliffs - making its home on a distant - rocky crag…
- From there it hunts its prey - keeping watch with piercing eyes…
- Its young gulp down blood. Where there is a carcass - there you will find it!
- Did Job have the WISDOM to understand how the HAWK could FLY…
- By his COMMAND did the EAGLE take to the SKY – makes its next in high cliffs…
- Where an EAGLE can SEE far away – like a rat from FOUR kilometers away!
- Notice how MUCH God reveals of Himself through His CREATION – Romans 1:20
- God PROVIDES – but we will NOT always see what He is doing…
- We may not always get what we WANT – or be in CONTROL…
- But WISDOM – KNOWLEDGE – and BRAVERY come from the Lord…
- And if we stop and CONSIDER Him – we will SEE He is the one in control!

- **2nd – The Point… Job 40:1-14**
  - 1st – Arguing with God… vs. 1-5

▪ CONVICTED… vs. 1-4

- Then the LORD said to Job - do you still want to argue with the Almighty…
- You are Gods critic - but do you have the answers!
- Then Job replied to the LORD – I am VILE - how could I ever find the answers!
- I am VILE – useless – what 35 CHAPTERS of the opinions of men could NOT do…
- Just a few WORDS from God were quickly able to accomplish…
- Job saw his HEART – and realized his GOODNESS was NOTHING!
- We tend to get into a lot of trouble thinking we can somehow FIX people…
- Our words NOT have POWER – the POWER is in pointing people to the WORD!
- **II Timothy 3:16** – "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

- SILENT… vs. 5
  - I will cover my mouth [perfect]. I have said too much already. I have nothing more to say!
  - The ONLY response of Job to the LORD – was to PERMANENTLY [perfect] cover his mouth!
  - Jesus gave the parable of the wedding feast - **Matthew 22:11-14**
  - One man came in HIS clothes - HIS righteousness – HIS own good works…
  - The master asked him how he had come without the wedding clothes [white robes]
  - The man was SPEECHLESS – and he was cast into outer darkness!
  - A lot of people think that they will be able to reason with God on Judgment Day…
  - Plead their case – argue their merits - and try to argue their way into heaven…
  - But in the presence of the Lord – we are silent before a Holy God!
- 2nd – Who is like God… vs. 6-14
  - Discredit God… vs. 6-8
    - Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind: Brace yourself like a man…
    - Because I have some questions for you - and you must answer them…
    - Will you discredit my justice and condemn me just to prove you are right!
    - The LORD spoke a SECOND time from the STORM…
    - PREPARE [imperative] yourself – because you will answer [imperative] Me!
    - Job had IGNORED the JUDGMENT of God – to try and JUSTIFY himself…
    - And here we get at the HEART of the problem – the reason why Job thought he was GOOD…
    - He was using his OWN standard for being RIGHTEOUS - rather than Gods!
    - Whenever we try to justify ourselves - we end up having to lower Gods standards...
    - Assuming because we are BETTER than someone else - we are a GOOD person...
    - But God does not grade on a curve - He has only ONE standard – **Matthew 5:48**
    - And compared to the standard of God - ALL of us are in desperate need of Jesus!
  - Equal to God… vs. 9-14
    - Are you as strong as God - can you thunder with a voice like His…
    - All right - put on your glory and splendor - your honor and majesty…
    - Give vent to your anger. Let it overflow against the proud…
    - Humiliate the proud with a glance - walk on the wicked where they stand…
    - Bury them in the dust. Imprison them in the world of the dead…
    - Then even I would praise you - for your own strength would save you!
    - But Job was NOT as STRONG as the LORD – God had proven that…
    - There was NO way for Job to save himself by his OWN strength…
    - God had shown all FIVE men – salvation can ONLY come through the LORD!
    - **Ephesians 2:8** – "By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves…"

- **3RD – THE DINOSAURS… JOB 40:15 – 41:34**
  - 1st – The Behemoth… vs. 15-24
    - To COMPLETE His argument – God will give TWO examples – BEHEMOTH / LEVIATHAN!
      - Both displayed the incredible POWER of God in His creation…
      - But the question we have to answer – is what they were!
    - What was Behemoth… vs. 15-18
      - Take a look at Behemoth - which I made - just as I made you!
      - It eats grass like an ox. See its powerful loins and the muscles of its belly…
      - Its tail is as strong as a cedar. The sinews of its thighs are knit tightly together…

- Its bones are tubes of bronze. Its limbs are bars of iron!
- BEHEMOTH [בְּהֵמוֹת] – only here OT – from a root word that means animal…
- People had argued multiple animals for BEHEMOTH – Elephant / Hippopotamus…
- But there are TWO things that do NOT fit the description…
- Bones like TUBES [אֲפִיק] of bronze – sauropods had HOLLOW bones…
- TAIL like a cedar – have you even seen an elephant / hippo tail!

▪ Handiwork of God… vs. 19-24

- It is a prime example of Gods handiwork - and only its Creator can threaten it…
- The mountains offer it their best food - where all the wild animals play…
- It lies under the lotus plants - hidden by the reeds in the marsh…
- The lotus plants give it shade among the willows beside the stream….
- It is not disturbed by the raging river - when the swelling Jordan rushes around it…
- No one can catch it off guard or put a ring in its nose and lead it away!
- God is unquestionably describing a SAUROPOD…
- An animal that could be 34m long – and weigh up to 90 THOUSAND kilos!
- The PRIME example of what God could create – something no one could CONTROL!
- But that means DINOSAURS existed at the same time as MEN…
- They did NOT exist millions of years ago – they were created on day 5 and 6 - **Genesis 1**
- They were included on the ARK with Noah [babies]
- And they co-existed with man – until eventually they became extinct!

○ 2nd – The Leviathan… vs. 1-34

▪ Everything is mine… vs. 1-11

- Can you catch Leviathan with a hook or put a noose around its jaw…
- Can you tie it with a rope through the nose or pierce its jaw with a spike…
- Will it beg you for mercy or implore you for pity…
- Will it agree to work for you - to be your slave for life…
- Can you make it a pet like a bird - or give it to your little girls to play with…
- Will merchants try to buy it to sell it in their shops…
- Will its hide be hurt by spears - or its head by a harpoon…
- If you lay a hand on it - remember the battle that follows - you will not try that again!
- No - it is useless to try to capture it. The hunter who attempts it will be knocked down!
- And since no one dares to disturb it - who then can stand up to me…
- Who has given me anything that I need to pay back! Everything under heaven is mine!
- LEVIATHAN [6 – [לִוְיָתָן x in OT – is used to describe a terrifying animal…
- You cannot make it a PET – you cannot SELL it – you cannot DEFEAT it…
- If anyone faced it in battle – it would be battle they would LOSE…
- Since no one can stand up to LEVIATHAN – who was created by God…
- Then it stands to reason – no one can STAND UP to God – who is greater than his creation!
- Because EVERYTHING under HEAVEN was made by the LORD – and belongs to the LORD!

▪ The Armor… vs. 12-17

- I want to emphasize Leviathans limbs and its enormous strength and graceful form…
- Who can strip off its hide - and who can penetrate its double layer of armor…
- Who could pry open its jaws - for its teeth are terrible!
- Its scales are like rows of shields tightly sealed together…
- They are so close together that no air can get between them…
- Each scale sticks tight to the next. They interlock and cannot be penetrated!

- LEVIATHAN – had impenetrable armor – covered in interlocking scales…
- His mouth could NOT be pried open – it was FULL of terrifying teeth…
- Some have used this to explain this was a crocodile – 3700psi bite force…
- For comparison – we bite down with only around 150psi!

- The Fire… vs. 18-21
  - When it sneezes - it flashes light! Its eyes are red like the dawn…
  - Lightning leaps from its mouth - flames of fire flash out…
  - Smoke streams from its nostrils - like steam from a pot heated over burning rushes…
  - Its breath would kindle coals - for flames shoot from its mouth!
  - Here is the problem – crocodiles do NOT breath FIRE…
  - There is only ONE animal that this could be describing – a DRAGON!
  - The word DINOSAUR was first used in 1841 – before then they were called DRAGONS…
  - Many cultures have stories about DRAGONS - Egypt / China / Greece…
  - All describing much the same things as God describes here!
  - Meaning LEVIATHAN was a DRAGON that God created!
- The Power… vs. 22-34
  - The tremendous strength in Leviathans neck strikes terror wherever it goes…
  - Its flesh is hard and firm and cannot be penetrated…
  - Its heart is hard as rock - hard as a millstone…
  - When it rises - the mighty are afraid - gripped by terror…
  - No sword can stop it - no spear – dart - or javelin…
  - Iron is nothing but straw to that creature - and bronze is like rotten wood…
  - Arrows cannot make it flee. Stones shot from a sling are like bits of grass…
  - Clubs are like a blade of grass - and it laughs at the swish of javelins…
  - Its belly is covered with sharp scales. It plows up the ground as it drags through the mud…
  - Leviathan makes the water boil with its commotion - stirs the depths like a pot of ointment!
  - The water glistens in its wake - making the sea look white…
  - Nothing on earth is its equal - no other creature so fearless…
  - Of all the creatures - it is the proudest - it is the king over all the children of pride!
  - Why did God finish His conversation with Job – by describing two DINOSAURS…
  - It showed the POWER of His creation – the POWER of God…
  - It also showed the FOOLISHNESS of the WISDOM of men…
  - God knew one day men would argue EVOLUTION – not GOD – formed everything…
  - And 4000 years ago – He put in descriptions of DRAGONS – who lived with MEN…
  - Showing the foolishness of men – and the WISDOM of God!