

WATCHING STARS

It is really quite incredible when we attempt to contemplate either the macro or micro aspects of everything around us. It was key to the suffering man Job as he endured his trials and spoke with his ignorant friends. When it becomes God's turn to speak His mind, the following Words flow from His mouth. I find it good for my heart to listen and to contemplate each point He makes!

JOB 38

And now, finally, GOD answered Job from the eye of a violent storm. He said:

*“Why do you confuse the issue? Why do you talk without knowing what you're talking about?
Pull yourself together, Job! Up on your feet! Stand tall!
I have some **questions** for you, and I want some **straight answers**.*

***Where were you when I created the earth?** Tell me, since you know so much!
Who decided on its size? Certainly you'll know that!
Who came up with the blueprints and measurements?
How was its **foundation** poured, and who set the **cornerstone**,
While the **morning stars** sang in chorus and all the angels shouted praise?*

*And who took charge of the **ocean** when it gushed forth like a baby from the womb?
That was me! I wrapped it in soft clouds, and tucked it in safely at night.
Then I made a playpen for it, a strong playpen so it couldn't run loose,
And said, 'Stay here, this is your place. Your wild tantrums are confined to this place.'*

*“And have you ever ordered **Morning**, 'Get up!' told Dawn, 'Get to work!'
So you could seize Earth like a blanket and shake out the wicked like cockroaches?
As the sun brings everything to light, brings out all the colors and shapes,
The cover of darkness is snatched from the wicked - they're caught in the very act!*

*“Have you ever gotten to the **true** depth of things, explored the labyrinthine caves of deep ocean?
Do you know the first thing about death? Do you have one clue regarding **death's dark mysteries**?
And do you have any idea how **large** this earth is?
Speak up if you have even the beginning of an answer.*

*“Do you know where **Light** comes from and where **Darkness** lives
So you can take them by the hand and lead them home when they get lost?
Why, of course you know that. You've known them all your life,
grown up in the same neighborhood with them!*

*“Have you ever **traveled** to where snow is made, seen the vault where hail is stockpiled,
The arsenals of hail and snow that I keep in readiness for times of trouble and battle and war?
Can you find your way to where lightning is launched, or to the place from which the wind blows?*

*Who do you suppose **carves canyons for the downpours of rain**, and charts the route of thunderstorms
That bring water to unvisited fields, deserts no one ever lays eyes on,
Drenching the useless wastelands - so they're carpeted with wildflowers and grass?
And who do you think is the **father** of rain and dew, the **mother** of ice and frost?
You don't for a minute imagine these marvels of weather just happen, do you?*

*“Can you catch the eye of the beautiful Pleiades sisters, or distract Orion from his hunt?
Can you get Venus to look your way, or get the Great Bear and her cubs to come out and play?
Do you know the first thing about the sky's constellations and **how they affect** things on Earth?*

*“Can you get the attention of the clouds, and commission a shower of rain?
Can you take charge of the lightning bolts, and have them report to you for orders?*

*“Who do you think gave **weather-wisdom** to the ibis, and storm-savvy to the rooster?
Does anyone know enough to number all the clouds or tip over the rain barrels of heaven
When the earth is cracked and dry, the ground baked hard as a brick?*

*“Can you **teach the lioness** to stalk her prey and satisfy the appetite of her cubs
As they crouch in their den, waiting hungrily in their cave?
And who sets out food for the ravens when their young cry to God,
fluttering about because they have no food?*

*(chapter 39 then **continues** to view God - many creatures - and us!)*

Which all leads to:

JOB 40

*GOD then confronted Job directly: “Now what do you have to say for yourself?
Are you going to haul me, the Mighty One, into court and press charges?”*

Job answered:

*“I'm speechless, in awe—words fail me.
I should never have opened my mouth!
I've talked too much, way too much.
I'm ready to shut up and listen.”*

*I find the book of Job to be very humbling. It makes me think of Ecclesiastes 5:2: “Don't shoot off your mouth,
or speak before you think. Don't be too quick to tell God what you think he wants to hear. God's in charge,
not you—the less you speak, the better.” Wow.*