

God Responds

Series: Job, #6
Job 38:1 – 40:6
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl
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A brief review.

1. Job's terrific past. (see 1:1, 8; 2:3; 29:1-25)

2. Job's terrible present. (see 1:13-19; 2:7-9; 13:4; 16:2)

God breaks His silence.

1. God breaks a long silence for Job, and for us. (38:1; see also Exodus 19:16-19, 20:18-20)

2. God breaks His silence and answers Job, or does He?
   (38:1 - 40:2; see also 13:3, 15, 18; 23:2-6; 30:19-23)

God's Questions To Job.

1. "Job, can you explain the origins and functioning of My creation?" (38:4-38)

2. "Job, do you understand, provide for and oversee the animals?" (38:39 - 39:30)

3. "Job, you have found fault with Me and reproved Me, but in light of all I have said now, do you really want to debate with Me?" (40:1-2; see also 10:2; 13:3, 15, 18; 23:2-6)

Job's response to God.

1. Job's words. (40:3-5)

2. What Job is saying and doing. (40:3-5)

God's lessons for Job and for us.

1. God is the Almighty Creator who is in control.

2. We cannot understand or even know all of what God does and why He does it.

3. God is always with you, even when you don't think He is.

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. God breaks His silence and speaks to Job as chapter 38 opens. Why do you think God was silent for so long? Can you identify times when you felt God was distant and not responding or speaking to you? While we can distance ourselves from God and dampen our fellowship with Him, Job's situation teaches us that this is not always the reason. Sometimes God has purposes that we do not see or know.

Tuesday. When God finally spoke, He spoke dramatically (38:1-3). He didn't give a point by point response to Job's questions. He asked Job questions. Read 38:1-38. What is God telling Job in this series of questions? How do God's questions relate to Job's questions?

Wednesday. Read 39:9 - 39:30. God shifts to questions about the animal world. What is God driving home to Job here? Why do you think God piled up question after question? Did this help Job, and if so, how?

Thursday. Read God's closing statement of His first speech and Job's response in 40:1-5. In what ways had Job found fault with God and reproved Him? What does Job's response to God tell you about him? Review the lessons (see the outline) from this section.

Friday – Saturday. Advent begins on Sunday. We will take our final look at Job after Christmas. Our Advent and Christmas series is *Announce His Coming*, beginning with the announcement to Zachariah. Review Luke chapter 1 in preparation for our time together.

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