Character Study: Job Part 5 – Job Hears from God Job 38-41:6

What's happening?

• Following the speech by Elihu, God broke His silence. However, instead of answering Job's questions, God had some questions of His own through which He exposed the error of Job's pride. He asked where Job was when He laid the foundations of the earth (38:4). He asked if Job could comprehend the expanse of the earth or the complexity of the weather (38:18, 25-27). He asked if Job could control the lightning or care for the animal kingdom (38:35, 39-41; 39:19, 27).

• God showed that the glory of His creation reveals so much about His wisdom and power that there is no one equal to Him. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things; there is no reason to question His wisdom. Job humbly realized his view of God was much too small. (40:1-5)

• God continued by highlighted the majesty of two great animals of that day (the Behemoth and Leviathan). This further emphasized that there is no need to question the works of God (40:15-41:34). God's message that He could be trusted was loud and clear.

• Job acknowledged that God's power and wisdom were infinite, and that he had questioned things that were beyond his understanding. Seeing that doubting God was foolish, Job was brought to repentance. (42:1-6)

What's God doing?

> God spoke, giving multiple reasons why there was no need for Job to doubt Him. God did not directly answer Job's question as to why the innocent suffer, but He showed that Job's question could be replaced by trust. With that, Job was satisfied.

What's to learn?

 \rightarrow When we have a correct perspective of who God is, we gain a correct perspective of our problems. We may not understand why we go through certain things, but when we are enamored by the majesty of God, such questions are no longer important. (See Isaiah 55:8-9)

 \rightarrow Are there times you have questioned God or doubted His wisdom for things He has allowed to happen in your life? Are there thoughts or attitudes you need to repent of? Even when things seem to be falling apart, God is worthy to be trusted and more than capable of carrying us through.

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