"Book of Job – Part 4"

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BIG SANDY, Texas–At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a five-part series about the book of Job. The title of that presentation was "Book of Job – Part 4."

Following are the five anticipated parts of the series.

1. God Started the Trial – (chapters 1-3).

2. Job Responded to His 3 Friends – (chapters 4-11).

3. Elihu Confronted Job – (chapters 32-37).

4. God Confronted Job Twice – (chapters 38-41).

5. Comparison between Job 40:2 and Job 42:1-6.

Two confrontations

Most Bible students are aware that the Lord confronted Job two separate times during the end of the book of Job. It is fun to watch the face of someone who comes to realize that reality for the first time.

While we can see the words that the Lord spoke during the two comments, we presently cannot hear the tone of the Lord's voice when we read of the two scenarios. Therefore, we are missing some of the picture concerning the exchange.

First confrontation

The first confrontation is found in Job 38:1 through Job 40:2. Notice that this confrontation began with the Lord talking to Job out of the whirlwind (Job 38:1).

Notice the Lord's first sentences in this confrontation (Job 38:2-3) from four translations.

- King James Translation: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I demand of thee, and answer thou me."

- New King James Translation: "Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Now prepare yourself like a man. I will question you, and you shall answer Me."

- God's Word Translation: "Who is this that belittles my advice with words that do not show any knowledge about it? Brace yourself like a man! I will ask you, and you will teach me."

- Contemporary English Version: "Why do you talk so much when you know so little? Now get ready to face me! Can you answer the questions I ask?"

Some of the questions

Here are some of the questions listed as subheads in the Contemporary English Version.

- Job 38:12 – Did you ever tell the sun to rise?
- Job 38:31 – Can you arrange stars?
- Job 39:1 – When do mountain goats give birth?
- Job 39:13 – Why does an ostrich proudly flap her wings?
- Job 39:19 – Did you give horses their strength?

Job's first reply

Job's reply to the first confrontation is found in Job 40:2 and Job's reply to the second confrontation is found in Job 42:1-6. Next Wednesday night, we will focus on both of Job's responses.

Second confrontation

The second confrontation is found in Job 40:6 through Job 41:34. Notice that this confrontation began again with the Lord talking to Job out of the whirlwind (Job 40:6).

Notice the Lord's first sentences in this confrontation (Job 40:7) from the same four translations.

- King James Translation: "Gird up thy loins now like a man. I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me."

- New King James Translation: "Now prepare yourself like a man. I will question you, and you shall answer Me."

- God's Word Translation: "Brace yourself like a man! I will ask you, and you will teach me."

- Contemporary English Version: "Face me and answer the questions I ask!"

Some of the questions

Here are some of the questions listed as subheads in the Contemporary English Version.

- Can you catch a sea monster?
- What happens when this monster sneezes?

Job's second reply

Job's reply to the first confrontation is found in Job 40:2 and Job's reply to the second confrontation is found in Job 42:1-6. Next Wednesday night, we will focus on both of Job's responses.