

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

## INTRODUCTION:

### I. What God Says

*Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:*

<sup>2</sup> *“Who is this that obscures my plans  
with words without knowledge?”*

<sup>3</sup> *Brace yourself like a man;  
I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.*

<sup>4</sup> *“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
Tell me, if you understand.*

<sup>5</sup> *Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
Who stretched a measuring line across it?*

<sup>6</sup> *On what were its footings set,  
or who laid its cornerstone—*

<sup>7</sup> *while the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels shouted for joy? ...*

*“Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea  
or walked in the recesses of the deep?*

<sup>17</sup> *Have the gates of death been shown to you?  
Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?*

*People assault the flinty rock with their hands  
and lay bare the roots of the mountains....*

*Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain,  
and a path for the thunderstorm,*

<sup>26</sup> *to water a land where no one lives,  
an uninhabited desert* Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

## God’s Response to Job

### The Classic Argument against God from Suffering

If there is a God and he’s both all good and all powerful then why does he allow pain and suffering to exist? Since it does exist there cannot be a God.

“If God is good then He’s not all-powerful; If God is all-powerful then He is not good.” ~Lex Luther, *from Superman vs. Batman*

## God’s Response

*Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:*

*“Who is this that obscures my plans  
with words without knowledge? (vss. 1-2)*

Then he gives Job and Earth Science Quiz...

<sup>4</sup> *“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
Tell me, if you understand.*

<sup>5</sup> *Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
Who stretched a measuring line across it?*

<sup>6</sup> *On what were its footings set,  
or who laid its cornerstone—*

<sup>7</sup> *while the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels shouted for joy? ...*

*“Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea  
or walked in the recesses of the deep?*

<sup>17</sup> *Have the gates of death been shown to you?  
Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?*

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

Reasons Job Could Not Figure God Out:

- 1.
2. That’s because he lacked God’s sight.
3. He also lacked \_\_\_\_\_ to see all the moving parts. God sees the butterfly effect.
4. Some of the information you need \_\_\_\_\_.

The reason why Job was confused was because it was not a moral issue as proposed by Job’s friends but it was a knowledge issue!

Charles Templeton

“If God were small enough to be understood, then he would not be big enough to be worshipped.” ~ Evelyn Underhill

Illustration: *from* “No Graven Image” by Elizabeth Elliott

“Now in the clear light of day I see that God, if He were merely my accomplice, betrayed me. If, on the other hand, God was God then He freed me.”

Why Doesn’t God Explain to Job the Reason for His Suffering

1. God knows something else Job doesn’t know – He intends on putting Job’s story into the Bible!

2.

Applying God’s Response to Our Lives

- Add to your “Map” We aren’t as smart as God is. We need to treat God as God. He is not our colleague or assistant!

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

- When it comes to Why? In scripture
  - It tells us to put our energies not in finding out why
- 
- 
- Rational answers are not helpful in the midst of pain and suffering
  - What does help: \_\_\_\_\_!

## II. What God Doesn't Say

### Job 1

*“Does Job fear God for nothing?” Satan replied. <sup>10</sup> “Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face.”*

*The Lord said to Satan, “Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger.” (vss.8-10)*

*“Would you discredit my justice?*

*Would you condemn me to justify yourself? Job 40:8*

Illustration: *Amadeus* (a play written by Peter Shaffer)

*“We are now enemies. I was a servant of God, of my fellow man and of the poor and God has made me a murderous wretch because of His injustice!*

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

## Add to Your “Map” These Truths

- God loves me
- God is good
- God is for you not against you.
- God has a reason

## III. The Way God Shows Up

*“Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm.” (vs. 1)*

*Then Job replied to the Lord:*

<sup>2</sup> *“I know that you can do all things;  
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.*

<sup>3</sup> *You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’  
Surely I spoke of things I did not understand,  
things too wonderful for me to know.*

<sup>4</sup> *“You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak;  
I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.’*

<sup>5</sup> ***My ears had heard of you  
but now my eyes have seen you.***

<sup>6</sup> *Therefore I despise myself  
and repent in dust and ashes.” Job 42:1-7*

God shows us up by....

Another way God shows up - \_\_\_\_\_

*“After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.” Job 42:10*

# We Will Get Through This: “Our Greatest Resource for Facing Adversity”

5/31/20

Job 38: 1-7, 16-17, 25-26; 40:8; 42:1-7, 10

---

Another Day, Another Storm

*“But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.”* Isaiah 53:5

The Implications of the Ending of Job

- Rest in His Love
- Rest in His Justice
- Rest in His Grace
- Rest in His Bigness & Brilliance
- Rest in His Presence

If you see Jesus facing the ultimate storm for you, that he was crushed for you, then you’ll be able to sense Him in your smaller storms and not be crushed.