



# **GOD ON TRIAL**

The Book of Job





# God Responds

Job 38-41



Where were you when I laid the  
earth's foundation?

Tell me, if you understand.

Who marked off its dimensions?

Surely you know!

Who stretched a measuring line across it?

On what were its footings set,

or who laid its cornerstone —

while the morning stars sang together

and all the angels shouted for joy?

Job 38: 4-7

*Then Job answered the Lord:*

I am unworthy

— how can I reply to you?

I put my hand over my mouth.

I spoke once, but I have no answer

— twice, but I will say no more.

Job 40:1-5



A close-up photograph of a hippopotamus and a crocodile on a sandy beach. The hippopotamus is on the left, its head and neck in profile, looking towards the right. The crocodile is on the right, its head and front part of its body visible, looking towards the left. The background shows a body of water with gentle ripples. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daylight.

Behemoth?

Leviathan?



# Behemoth → Job

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A raging river does not alarm it;  
it is secure, though  
the Jordan should surge  
against its mouth.

Job 40:23



# Leviathan → God

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Nothing on earth is its equal —  
a creature without fear.  
It looks down on all  
that are haughty;  
it is king over all that are proud.

Job 41:33-34







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Then Job replied to the Lord:

“I know that you can do all things;  
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.  
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.

Job 42:1-3



“You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak;  
I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.’  
My ears had heard of you  
but now my eyes have seen you.  
Therefore I despise myself  
and repent in dust and ashes.”

Job 42:4-6

After the Lord had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves.

Job 42:7-8

My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.” So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the Lord told them; and the Lord accepted Job’s prayer.

Job 42:8-9



After Job had prayed for his friends,  
the Lord restored his fortunes and gave  
him twice as much as he had before.  
All his brothers and sisters and  
everyone who had known him before  
came and ate with him in his house.  
They comforted and consoled him over  
all the trouble the Lord had brought on  
him, and each one gave him a piece of  
silver and a gold ring

Job 42:10-11

The Lord blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch.

Job 42:12-14

Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers.

After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. And so Job died, an old man and full of years.

Job 42:15-17



# **Outline of Job**

**Prologue: ch 1-3**

**Speech cycles (× 3): ch 4-27**

**Wisdom Poem: ch 28**

**Monologues (× 3) ch 29-41**

**Epilogue: ch 42**

My ears had heard of you  
but now my eyes have seen you.  
Therefore I despise myself  
and repent in dust and ashes.

Job 42:5-6 (NIV)

Therefore I realize the truth:  
I disavow and mourn  
all I have said  
and repent in dust and ash.

Job 42:5-6 (The Voice)



“You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.”

Job 42:7 & 42:8



# Job's Problematic Restoration?

- It doesn't erase the suffering he experienced, so getting all his stuff back - even double - seems hollow.
- Providing Job with more children does not heal his grief for those he lost.
- Restoring Job's prosperity seems to support the Retribution Principle



**Wisdom is not always  
understanding, but  
trusting in the God who  
DOES understand.**



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In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil.

Job 1:1



He was the greatest man  
among all the sons of the East.

Job 1:3

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

**While Job was praying for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.**

**Job 42:10**

**righteous**  
**suffering**  
**servant**





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