

MOUNT SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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BIBLE STUDY

JOB

Bible Study Strategies: Prayer of Preparation

1. **Reading** the Scripture accurately
2. **Interpreting** the Scripture which is read
3. **Obeying** the Scripture as it is understood

Aims of Bible Study:

1. Increased Bible knowledge
2. Improvement as a student of the Scripture
3. Spiritual growth as a believer in Christ

THE REVELATION OF THE LORD (Chaps. 38:1 – 42:6)

The Challenge of the Wonders of Animate Creation (Chap. 38:39 – 40:2)

38:39-41 God now moves from the inanimate creation to the animate. By continued questions, He reminds Job of His providence – how He opens His hand and satisfies the appetite of every living thing, from kingly lions in their dens and lairs to the unprepossessing raven and its young ones.

39:1-8 Job is reminded that no one but God knows fully the gestation periods, the birth habits, and the instincts of the wild mountain goats and the deer. The wild donkey (also called onager) scorns restraint, city life, and harness, but roams at will over the desert and mountain ranges searching for every green thing.

39:9-18 The wild ox also rejects a life of service in plowing or transporting. And what about the ostrich with her unusual wings? In some ways she acts foolishly, laying her eggs in places where they are vulnerable, and treating her young harshly. Yet she can outrun the race horse and its rider!

39:19-25 God next asks Job if he gave strength to the war horse, or clothed his neck with thunder (or a mane, NKJV margin). Majestic and unafraid, devouring distance with fierceness and rage, this proud animal eagerly gallops into the battle in utter disregard of shouting, trumpet, or glittering spears and javelin.

39:26-30 Did Job give wisdom to the hawk to migrate south? And was he the one who taught the eagle to fly, to nest on the high rocky crag, to spy out carrion from a great distance, and to train its young ones to find their food?

40:1, 2 Again the Lord rebukes Job for his impertinence in finding fault with the Almighty. If he is so wise and powerful, surely he should be able to answer the catalog of questions that he has just heard!

Job's Response (40:3-5)

The Lord asks Job if he has any right to correct or rebuke Him in the realm of providence when he knows so little about the natural creation. With this Job at last takes his proper place, saying, "Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth." Overwhelmed by the wide-ranging knowledge of the Lord, he determines to say no more.