

## God Displays His Attributes in Nature

### Job 39

Group <sup>1</sup>	C	V	Description
God Speaks of Nature and Its Beings	39	1-4	God asks Job to consider the birth of mountain goats and deer
		5-12	God asks Job to consider the wild donkey and wild ox
		13-18	God asks Job to consider how He made the ostriches
		19-25	God asks Job to consider the horse
		26-30	God asks Job to consider the hawk and eagle

### Reflections

God continues His questioning of Job and his friends, helping them to see that He is far beyond complete human understanding. It is possible to know God in part in this life, but we can never fully know God while still living in a fallen world. God asks Job to consider the following animals, examples of His providence, omnipotence, and omniscience.

- Mountain goats
- Deer
- Wild donkey
- Wild ox
- Ostriches
- Horse
- Hawk
- Eagle

While considering the mountain goats and deer, God asks Job to think about the miracle of birth.

While considering the wild donkey and wild ox, God asks Job to think about the difference between these and the domesticated animals they use to do the work in their fields.

While considering the ostriches, God asks Job to think about how even though they seem to be without sense regarding the care of their eggs, yet they can be as swift as a horse and can even carry a rider.

While considering the horse, God asks Job to think about their willingness to charge forward at the urging of their riders in the midst of battle and in facing perilous terrain.

While considering the hawk and eagle, God asks Job to think about their majesty in flight and their keen eyesight.

All of these are example of God’s creative power and imagination, which God has placed in man by creating him in His own image. Yet we pale in comparison to Him. Still we think that we can question God and His reasons for the things He does or allows to happen. He is God and He could prevent all the bad things from happening in this life but then we would only be faithful and loving toward God on a limited knowledge or experience.

By allowing nature and its consequences to continue uninterrupted, God gives us space to see His majesty in all of life, the good and the bad. Yes, even when we don’t seem to deserve it. Especially then. Additionally, By God allowing Satan to test and tempt His faithful ones, God also gives us opportunities to grow in our faith.

Remember, Jesus, God’s only Son, was tested by Satan 40 days in the wilderness prior to beginning His earthly ministry. This then continues throughout the rest of His ministry as well. So why should we be surprised when we experience difficulties. Like Christ, when faced with them, begin looking for ways that we might use our experiences to minister to others and to extoll the greatness of God, no matter

<sup>1</sup> (NASB) “Group” column from the headings in the NASB text.

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what our circumstances.

As I said before, we will never fully understand in our lifetime but we can trust Him at all times, especially during the difficult times. Remember His promise through His prophet Isaiah.

### Isaiah 55:6-13 NASB

- 6 Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near.
- 7 Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.
- 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD.
- 9 "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
- 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.
- 12 "For you will go out with joy And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap *their* hands.
- 13 "Instead of the thorn bush the cypress will come up, And instead of the nettle the myrtle will come up, And it will be a memorial to the LORD, For an everlasting sign which will not be cut off."

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### ***There and Then: Here and Now***

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study: *my LOG vs others SPECK*. Here are some possible responses I've identified from the text that might apply to anyone.

- S - Are there *sins* for me to avoid or confess?
  - Anger toward God when difficult times come
- P - Are there *promises* from God for me to claim?
  -
- E - Are there *examples* for me to follow or avoid?
  -
- C - Are there *commands* for me to obey?
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- K - How has this passage increased my *knowledge* about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit?
  - God's attributes can be seen in all of creation.

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Key Words: Old Testament, Wisdom/Poetry, Job, God, Nature

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\* *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (with additions) & Matthew 7:1-5.

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### *Bibliography*

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*(NASB) New American Standard Bible*. La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995. Print.