

Job: A Poem about Pain
Part II: God Responds
Job 38-42

- I. A Quick Recap
 - A. God Allows Satan to Harm Job
Job 1:9-12, 2:4-6; Luke 22:31-34
 - B. Job Questions God's Justice
Job 9:22-23, 27:2
 - C. Job's Friends Question his Innocence
Job 4:7-9, 22:4-11
- II. God Shows Up
 - A. Exposes Job's Deeper False Assumption
Job 38 (esp. v. 21)
 - B. Reveals the Complexity of Creation
Job 39, 40:8-14
 - C. Invites Job to Trust His Wisdom
Job 40:15-41:34
- III. God Settles the Argument
 - A. The Friends were Wrong
Job 42:7-8
 - B. Job was Right
Job 42:7-9
 - C. The Sufferer Blesses Others
Job 42:10-17, 7-8
- IV. Job's Response, Our Response
 - A. Understand His/Our Place in Creation
Job 42:1-6
 - B. Embrace His/Our Role
Job 42:9-10; Luke 22:31-34
 - C. Trust God's Wild and Free Creation
Job 42:6, 14-17

Questions for Further Reflection

1. If you read through Job this past week, did you see anything you hadn't noticed before?
2. What assumptions have you made about God or the universe? What has led you to make those assumptions?
3. What parts of God's creation don't make sense to you?
4. We naturally gravitate towards ideas like the Retribution principle (good things happen to good people, etc.). Why do we struggle with concepts like God's Wisdom?
5. As you read through Job this past week (or listened to the sermon) how many of the friends' statements were things that you could hear yourself saying?
6. How do you feel reading God's rebuke of the friends and His defence of Job?
7. How does the ending of Job make you feel?
8. What is your role in God's wild and free creation? Where and how can you be a part of his unfolding wisdom?