

## The Glory of God in Creation

### (3) Thursday: Job38. 9 – 39.30 – God Shows Job Certain Animals

Having set the heavens with all their wonder and majesty before Job the Lord now comes in closer to home – to the natural world – describing certain animals, in particular their self sufficiency. The purpose is to show Job how small and insignificant he is in the cosmos, particularly how limited his knowledge and wisdom is – he thought he could understand Gods ways etc but the Lord will show him these are far beyond his limited reach – as with us all. Not that God does not care for or take note of weak and vulnerable creatures (not one sparrow shall fall without His knowledge). We need to realise how superlatively great and wondrous God really is – this will prepare our hearts to approach in the right spirit. We live in an age of self, the great me, ego and self interest.- glorying in trivia and small things, missing the greater picture. Need to realise all things are in His hands – every detail – all creation speaks of this – He uses some examples in the animal kingdom to demonstrate this.

Ch 38.1 **Lion** – king of the beasts – self sufficient – they do not need us to feed them – they are expert hunters, know how to capture their prey and feed their young

V 41 – **The Raven** – we may overlook this bird but the corvid family (ravens crows, rooks etc) have been shown to amongst the most intelligent in animal kingdom – no bird brain! They too can thrive in wild and provide for their young – as God has equipped them to do.

Ch 39.1-4 – **Wild Goats** and v5-8 **Wild Ass** both very independent and hardy creatures – can survive in rugged and arid conditions – they have been specially made to thrive in harsh and wilderness habitats – we see the work of God in the various characteristics displayed in just a handful of animals.

V13 – **The Peacock** – who could paint such a beautiful creature – male display and plumage so eye catching and extravagant – almost like showing off its display – just one of millions of God's creatures – all speaking eloquently of His limitless power.

V13 **Ostrich** What an amazing bird – Lord has made it seemingly careless (eggs left exposed) – but they survive – it has a very relaxed, laid back aura – a huge and curious bird – but it can outrun a horse and rider! (V18 – scorneth the horse and his rider).

V 19 – 25 **The Horse** - magnificent strong animal – can eat up the ground as gallops – courageous – carries soldiers into battle etc

V 26 – 30 **Hawk and Eagle** Proud independent birds of prey – beyond reach as build nests high in inaccessible crags – survey all around with remarkable eyesight – swoop down unseen to capture prey and carry it home to feed young.

This concludes the selection of animals described to Job – and to us – what have we contributed to their ways and abilities? Nothing of course – God has done all – let us begin to see His wondrous ways in all animal kingdom – exotic and common alike.