



MZBMP

Job 39 – God's Care for Animals

1 Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve? 2 Canst thou number the months that they fulfil? or knowest thou the time when they bring forth? 3 They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows. 4 Their young ones are in good liking, they grow up with corn; they go forth, and return not unto them.

5 Who hath sent out the wild ass free? or who hath loosed the bands of the wild ass? 6 Whose house I have made the wilderness, and the barren land his dwellings. 7 He scorneth the multitude of the city, neither regardeth he the crying of the driver. 8 The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing.

9 Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib? 10 Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? 11 Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him? 12 Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn?

13 Gavest thou the goodly wings unto the peacocks? or wings and feathers unto the ostrich? 14 Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust, 15 And forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them. 16 She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers: her labour is in vain without fear; 17 Because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding. 18 What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth the horse and his rider.

19 Hast thou given the horse strength? hast thou clothed his neck with thunder? 20 Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? the glory of his nostrils is terrible. 21 He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men. 22 He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted; neither turneth he back from the sword. 23 The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear and the shield. 24 He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage: neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet. 25 He saith among the trumpets, Ha, ha; and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.

26 Doth the hawk fly by thy wisdom, and stretch her wings toward the south? 27 Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high? 28 She dwelleth and abideth on the rock, upon the crag of the rock, and the strong place. 29 From thence she seeketh the prey, and her eyes behold afar off. 30 Her young ones also suck up blood: and where the slain are, there is she.

Observations:

1. Job had no clue concerning the gestation period of the wild goats and deer. (vv.1-2) – soon their youngs become strong and independent of them.
2. Job had no clue concerning the freedom of the wild donkey (vv.5-8). The survival of the wild donkey is completely on God.
3. Job had no clue concerning the “unicorn” – another word for the single horned Rhinoceros. (mentioned 7X in the KJV).
4. Job had no clue concerning the magnificence and foolishness of the peacocks and ostrich. (vv.13-18).
5. Job had no clue how to give strength to the horse – war horse (vv.19-25).
6. Job had no clue concerning the hawk, and the eagle (vv.26-29).
7. Job needed to be reminded to fear the Lord.
8. Job needed to be reminded that God cares more for Him (even as God cares for birds, Matt. 6:26, 33; Lk. 12:24). Casting all your care upon Him... 1 Pet. 5:7.
9. Job needed to be reminded that God protects him. Even as God protects animals and their young ones.
10. Job needed to be reminded that God provides for him, even as He provides for the wild donkeys.
11. Job needed to be reminded that God can work with him even as He works with the unicorn.
12. Job needed to be reminded that talents is nothing without wisdom (the ostrich). (cf. Pro. 8:11, 17:27; James 1:5)
13. Job needed to be reminded that God charts the battles won or loss. Trust in Him.
14. Job needed to be reminded that if hawks and eagles can see so far away – that God sees well even into the future and knows what to do and is in control. Trust in Him. (Ps. 32:10).
15. We all should take time and look at the animal world and see the majesty of God in Creation!