

God Speaks to Job

CHARACTERS: Elihu, Voice of God, Job, Group A & B, All

SETTING: bare stage

RUN TIME: 5 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Job 37-39

ELIHU: The Lord answered Job from the whirlwind. He said:

VOICE OF GOD: Who is this who obscures My counsel with ignorant words? Get ready to answer Me like a man; when I question you, you will inform Me. (pause) Where were you when I established the earth?

JOB: I don't know.

VOICE OF GOD: Who stretched a measuring line across it? What supports its foundations?

ALL: Or who laid its cornerstone

GROUP A: Who enclosed the sea behind doors when it burst from the womb,

VOICE OF GOD: when I made the clouds its garment and thick darkness its blanket, when I determined its boundaries

GROUP B: and put its bars and doors in place,

VOICE OF GOD: when I declared: "You may come this far, but no farther; your proud waves stop here"?

GROUP A: Have you ever in your life commanded the morning or assigned the dawn its place,

GROUP B: so it may seize the edges of the earth and shake the wicked out of it?

ALL: The earth is changed as clay is by a seal; its hills stand out like the folds of a garment.

VOICE OF GOD: Have you traveled to the sources of the sea or walked in the depths of the oceans?

GROUP A: Have the gates of death been revealed to you?

GROUP B: Have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

VOICE OF GOD: Have you comprehended the extent of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this.

GROUP A: Where is the road to the home of light? Do you know where darkness lives, so you can lead it back to its border?

GROUP B: Are you familiar with the paths to its home?

GROUP A: Have you entered the place where the snow is stored?

VOICE OF GOD: Or have you seen the storehouses of hail, which I hold in reserve for times of trouble, for the day of warfare and battle?

GROUP B: What road leads to the place where light is dispersed? Where is the source of the east wind that spreads across the earth?

VOICE OF GOD: Who cuts a channel for the flooding rain or clears the way for lightning, to bring rain on an uninhabited land,

GROUP A: on a desert with no human life, to satisfy the parched wasteland and cause the grass to sprout?

GROUP B: Does the rain have a father? Who fathered the drops of dew?

VOICE OF GOD: Whose womb did the ice come from? Who gave birth to the frost of heaven when water becomes as hard as stone, and the surface of the watery depths is frozen?

GROUP A: Can you fasten the chains of the Pleiades or loosen the belt of Orion?

GROUP B: Can you bring out the constellations in their season and lead the Bear and her cubs?

VOICE OF GOD: Do you know the laws of heaven? Can you impose its authority on earth?

GROUP A: Can you command the clouds so that a flood of water covers you?

GROUP B: Can you send out lightning bolts, and they go? Do they report to you:

ALL: Here we are?

VOICE OF GOD: Who put wisdom in the heart or gave the mind understanding?

GROUP A: Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?

GROUP B: Or who can tilt the water jars of heaven when the dust hardens like cast metal and the clods of dirt stick together?

VOICE OF GOD: Can you hunt prey for a lioness or satisfy the appetite of young lions when they crouch in their dens and lie in wait within their lairs?

GROUP A: Who provides the raven's food when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?

GROUP B: Do you know when mountain goats give birth? Have you watched the deer in labor?

GROUP A: Can you count the months they are pregnant so you can know the time they give birth?

GROUP B: They crouch down to give birth to their young; they deliver their newborn.

VOICE OF GOD: Their offspring are healthy and grow up in the open field. They leave and do not return.

GROUP A: Who set the wild donkey free? Who released the swift donkey from its harness?

VOICE OF GOD: I made the wilderness its home, and the salty wasteland its dwelling.

GROUP B: It scoffs at the noise of the village and never hears the shouts of a driver.

ALL: It roams the mountains for its pastureland, searching for anything green.

GROUP A: Would the wild ox be willing to serve you? Would it spend the night by your feeding trough?

GROUP B: Can you hold the wild ox to a furrow by its harness? Will it plow the valleys behind you?

ALL: Can you depend on it because its strength is great? Would you leave it to do your hard work?

VOICE OF GOD: Can you trust the wild ox to harvest your grain and bring it to your threshing floor?

GROUP A: The wings of the ostrich flap joyfully, but are her feathers and plumage like the stork's?

GROUP B: She abandons her eggs on the ground and lets them be warmed in the sand.

VOICE OF GOD: She forgets that a foot may crush them or that some wild animal may trample them.

GROUP A: She treats her young harshly, as if they were not her own, with no fear that her labor may have been in vain.

GROUP B: For God has deprived her of wisdom; He has not endowed her with understanding.

ALL: When she proudly spreads her wings, she laughs at the horse and its rider.

VOICE OF GOD: Do you give strength to the horse? Do you adorn his neck with a mane? Do you make him leap like a locust?

GROUP A: His proud snorting fills one with terror.

GROUP B: He paws in the valley and rejoices in his strength;

ALL: He charges into battle.