

# Where Were You?

Job 38:4-7

Job 38:4-7 <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations<sup>2</sup> of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. {5} Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? {6} Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; {7} When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

As man has grown wiser and wiser in his own sight, we have slowly evolved - in our own minds at least - to the point where many feel that the God we once worshiped is really *too small*. There was a time when man had a somewhat healthy *fear* for God. Yet as technology has grown, we have begun to *question* God and His Scripture. Is it wrong to question God? It is, if you do so arrogantly. But God has always encouraged man to come to Him and ask questions. God has said:

Isaiah 1:18a <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Come now, and let us reason<sup>1</sup> together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

<sup>1</sup> Niphal Imperfect yakach {pronounced yaw-kahh'}, to reason, to have a discourse

Here we see two *wonderful characteristics* that are always evident in God: **He loves to reason with us, and He loves to care for us**. His great concern is not just that we carry on a dialog with Him, but also that we be *saved* from the state we have fallen into.

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Because God is so loving and so long suffering, we often

### Review Text

1. What are two wonderful characteristics of our Creator? (Isaiah 1:18)

attach *human traits* and *human limitations* to Him. There is a theological term I want you to remember: the *immensity of God*. Though God has, throughout all of human history, lowered Himself to communicate with mortal man, *God is not man*. The other day I had a discussion with a good and godly man about the immensity of God and the creation. This man expressed some concern over the fact that *starlight is so far away from earth*, then how could God have made all creation in six days. Starlight is far from earth.

The scientist George K. Schweitzer notes:

"Our sun is one of about 100,000,000,000 stars which make up a giant community of stars known as a galaxy. Our galaxy is a member of a small cluster of 19 galaxies. They occupy a region over 3 million light-years in diameter. Nearest in space to our cluster are a few other galaxial clusters. The first large cluster is about 30 million light-years from us, and it contains over 1000 galaxies. On and on out into space in all directions cluster after cluster can be seen, as far out as telescopes can reach. Over a billion galaxies can now be observed. And this gives a total of 100,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (10<sup>23</sup>) stars."

This dear man wondered how any Christian could, in good conscience, say that our earth *isn't* millions of years old. If light takes thousands or *millions* of light years to reach earth, then wouldn't earth be that old? Let's look at

this.

## 1. Our God Is Immense Over Time, While We Are Slaves To It

God spoke to Job and asked him:

**Job 38:4** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations<sup>2</sup> of the earth? ..."

<sup>2</sup> yacad {pronounced yaw-sad'}, Qal Infinitive, to found, establish

"Where were you when I created earth?" This is a valid question for the immortal and immense God to ask His creation. Were you there? None of us were. No scientist who has ever disputed the existence of God was ever there at the beginning. Charles Darwin was not there at the beginning of creation, nor was any alleged scientist there when God made all things with the Word of His mouth. The Psalmist says:

**Psalms 33:6** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."

As humans we are trapped in this bubble that we call time. It took me *time* to work on this message - it took *time* for us to get to Church today. Most of us - hold up your hands now - have watches on. I see that someone has placed a clock on the wall in the front of the Church so the pastor can see it and know when we're going to stop talking and start eating. In a *little while* we will say grace over our fellowship meal, and we'll eat a wonderful

meal together while we enjoy one another's presence. In *time* we will go home, and come back tonight to hear Brother Tom Carpenter of Creation Defense share all the errors of evolutionary thought with us. Some of you won't come back tonight because you won't have enough *time* to rest before you go back to work tomorrow. Some of you wish I'd shut up right now, because your stomachs are grumbling, and you think it's *time* to eat. Me too! (smile).

When we build things it takes us *time* to do it, and we often measure distances by *time*. "I went to Dickson the other day". "Oh", you reply, "how long did it take you?" We humans are creatures of time. The *evolutionist* makes his hokey claims more *plausible* to the unbeliever by throwing *great periods of time* in our faces. If I were to tell you I could make a cake by tossing flour, chocolate, sugar, milk, and eggs against a wall, you'd think I was a nut! But once I add *enormous periods of time* to the process, suddenly to the human mind it becomes more plausible. What can't be done in a spoken word can be done in ten million years - at least, to the human mind.

The *immensity of God in time* is seen in the creation of all things. God asked Job - and you - a *time question*. "Where were you when I built the earth you're standing on?" Where were you? Well, I'll guarantee you this - you weren't there, and neither was I!

How long did it take God to make the earth, and all the galaxies? Again, we read this earlier:

**Psalms 33:6** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath

of his mouth."

Let me illustrate by using something most of us are familiar with - computers. Just a few years ago the fastest computer made ran with an internal processor of 500 megahertz. This was so fast that the computer processed

Review Text
2. Humans are creatures of _____, God is the Creator.
3. How long did it take for God to create all things? What resource did He use to create? (Job 38:4; Psalm 33:6)

commands within *two billionths of a second*. But as computer programs grew bigger, we needed faster programs. Computers have gradually been developed that process data in the *gigahertz* range - which is *four to eight times faster* than the 500 megahertz processor.

What we have learned to do with computers is *reduce the amount of time* it takes to run them - because we are *bound to time*. God however, is *not bound to time*. God inhabits or lives *outside of time* in that which is called *eternity*:

**Isaiah 57:15** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy ... "

For humans, we spent *years* developing computers that work fast to overcome our limitation of time. But for God time is not an issue. We are slaves to time and age, but God transcends time because *He made time*. When

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we describe things we are describing them them while *bound to time*. IF the stars and galaxies are light years away, this in itself does not change the created nature of earth. As God said:

**Job 38:4** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations<sup>2</sup> of the earth? ..."

For God time is not an issue, for us time is an issue. All things were created - not by God's hands, but by the Word of His mouth. He spoke from eternity, and all things came into being in an instant. The Bible says that God the Son will one day come back for those who have believed in Him:

**1 Corinthians 15:52** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "In a moment<sup>4</sup>, in the twinkling<sup>3</sup> of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

The Greek text says **atomos<sup>4</sup> {pronounced at'-om-os} rhipe<sup>3</sup> {pronounced hree-pay'}**. The word *atomos* is the word we get our word *atom* from, and *rhipe* refers to that glisten *of the eye*, that tiniest of movements. One day we who have accepted Christ as Savior will **receive glorified and eternal bodies** just as Jesus has:

**1 John 3:2-3** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. {3} And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

It will not take *billions* of years, but only the smallest fraction of our time - and *no time* with God. I don't know about you, but **the immensity of God over time is a great comfort to me. Time is not a barrier to God, as it is a barrier to us.** We age, we grow older. Our friends pass from this bubble of time - but God continues onward. He does not age, nor does He die. The promise that He made when He saved you - if you are saved - is as good today as it was when you accepted Him years ago.

#### Review Text

4. Where does God live? (Isaiah 57:1)

5. One day the Creator will give us glorified bodies. How long will this process take? (1 Corinthians 15:52; 1 John 3:2-3)

You can have your human power and your measly gods and idols. There is great comfort in resting in the arms of the **Eternal God**:

**Deuteronomy 33:27** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "The **eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.**"

Whom shall you fear if your God is timeless? If you have accepted Jesus Christ as Savior you are heirs of *eternal life*:

**John 3:14-16** <sup>(KJV)</sup> "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be

lifted up: {15} That **whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.** {16} For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

How foolish to argue with the Eternal God over what He has done in creation! Am I *concerned* about the *alleged* fact that earth is *millions of light years* away from many of the stars? Absolutely not! I am comforted in the fact that:

**I serve a risen Savior  
He's in the world today!  
I know that He is living,  
Whatever men may say.  
.... And just the time I need Him,  
He's always near!**

The God Who made the Heavens and the earth with the breath of His mouth, the God Who lives *outside of time in eternity*, this **God** gave me and you *eternal life*, and stands ready to *enter time to be close to you and to me no matter when we need Him*. I would be most sad if the galaxies were NOT light years away, for then I would think that the awesome heavens were created by a *Time controlled God*. Praise God this is not the case! Jesus Christ:

Hebrews 13:8 <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

Let this warning go out, though, to each and every one of you who have not accepted Christ as Savior: Do not

confuse God with man. As humans **we have a bad tendency to equate God with ourselves, and this is very dangerous.** While we are *in this bubble called time* we must accept Christ as Savior:

**2 Corinthians 6:2 <sup>(KJV)</sup> "(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)"**

#### Review Text

6. Why does God's *immensity over time* comfort me? (Deuteronomy 33:27; John 3:14-16; Hebrews 13:8)

7. Knowing that God is *not* subject to time, when should I see salvation? (2 Corinthians 6:2)

for if you enter that stream of eternity without Christ - that place where time matters no more - you will find a state of *eternal punishment and suffering*. My prayer is that you do not wait to call on Jesus!

## **2. Our God Is Immense In Power Whereas We Are Limited In Power**

Job 38:4-5 <sup>(KJV)</sup> "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations<sup>2</sup> of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. {5} Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched<sup>5</sup> the line<sup>6</sup> upon it?"

<sup>5</sup> Qal Perfect natah {pronounced naw-taw'}, to stretch out, hold out

<sup>6</sup> qav {pronounced kawv}, measuring cord

God told Job "have you *measured* the heavens?". Now that's a fantastic statement! The heavens have an *order* and a *mathematical precision* to them. The Lord says "**I have stretched out a measuring cord over it**" to emphasize the truth that He and He alone made all things, and because of Him alone all things exist.

It took mankind many years to discover ways to build skyscrapers that would shift with the wind instead of shearing off during a storm. It took mankind many years, through *trial and error*, to design automobiles that run fast, an Internet system that spans the world in the touch of a button, a telephone and satellite system that allows us to call people - and even watch them - on the other side of the world. Again, all that we have done we have done through the process of *trial and error* and *time*. Ancient civilizations were not ignorant, for we have yet to fully understand how the Egyptian pyramids were formed. How did they get the stone where it ended up?

#### Review Text

8. Man designs and creates by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, whereas God creates all things instantly and by His will. (Job 38:4-5)

9. Was ancient man *ignorant* in the things he made?

How did they so precisely lock the stones together in a desert country nearly devoid of proper materials for

scaffolding. We have found no archaeological remnants of their *backhoes and cranes*, and any speculation we make as to how these immense structures were designed and built is only, at the end, speculation. Were these people ignorant? Absolutely not! But again, we were not there, and archeology only supplies us a limited understanding as to how they did what they did.

If we cannot understand how ancient man designed and built pyramids, nor how the Incas practiced brain surgery techniques (for evidence has been found of that), how can we possibly understand how God created all things? And not just created all things, but He *designed* all things to perfectly work together to support His pinnacle of creation, mankind.

Consider the issue of fire. Fire has been with man from the dawn of creation, and it is part of the Heavens that we see. F.W. Went wrote :

Let us consider for a moment the dimensional limitations of fire. A flame cannot be smaller than several millimeters in length (and even then is relatively unstable), and requires a volatile combustible material, such as gas or alcohol. Non-volatile combustible material such as wood or coal has a much larger critical mass for combustion. The reason for the lower limit of flame size is that the ignition point of gases and vapors lies rather high, usually many hundreds of degrees Centigrade. . . . Interestingly enough, a wood or coal fire above the critical size produces just the right amount of heat to warm man in a cave or a room or a camping site. But ants or small rodents would have to keep too far away to make a fire economical, or rather, they would be unable to bring up enough wood to keep the fire going. So, animals below a certain size have been forced to adopt other methods of keeping warm, by very high

food intake or by continuous activity or by allowing the deep body temperature to fall and becoming dormant, or by limiting their habitat to areas within the temperate zone. Because man is able to make a fire on account of his hands and completely vertical posture, he can be completely ubiquitous.

"The Size of Man" in American Scientist, vol.56, no.4, 1968, p.400.

Fire *screams* to all who use it that God Created all things, not evolution or a "big bang". Fire tells us that God in love made the heavens, the earth, then equipped the earth for what He would design next - mankind. The

#### Review Text

10. How does *fire itself* argue for the fact that God made earth then *fitted it* to support human life?

things that we harness, that we have learned over *time and trial and error* to use, are all things that God controls and has perhaps placed in our grasp.

We have never *invented anything*, but we have used the things which God in His immense power invented to better our lives. From atom, to electron, from fire to electricity, from electricity to nuclear power - all things are designed by God's "measuring line" and all things fit into a precise order.

If a person will accept the concept of God as NOT immense in power - a god of evolution, a god who grows as we do - then that person has not accepted the God of the Bible. The God we preach claims the title of *Creator*, a title that He and He alone may possess. Only God the Creator has the power to overcome the trials of life for the believer. We are told:

**Isaiah 40:28-31 (KJV) "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. {29} He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. {30} Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: {31} But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."**

This is the True God, the One who made all things, the **Creator of the ends of the earth**. He **Who holds the planets in their proper order, Who keeps the earth on its proper orbit around the sun, this same Creator gives power to the weak, and to those without strength He gives strength**. It takes the power of the Almighty to build all things, but it also takes the power of the Creator to *rebuild torn lives*:

**Psalms 51:10 (KJV) "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."**

The God Who made all things, the Creator, is the God Who has the power to move your heart from mediocrity and to victory. The God Who *holds all things together*, for we read:

**Colossians 1:13-17 (KJV) "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the**

kingdom of his dear Son: {14} In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: {15} Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: {16} For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: {17} **And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."**

This **God, this Precious Jesus, made all things with the breath of His mouth.** This God, our Precious Jesus, took on humanity, cloaking Himself in flesh just as we are, so that He could bring us into the family of God. This

#### Review Text

11. Only the God immense in power has the ability to deliver me from \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Isaiah 40:28-31; Psalms 51:10; Colossians 1:13-17)

Creator Who is immense in power has the ability to deliver us from sin and the terrors of this world. **Vance Havner** writes:

**By Him creation consists. "For by him were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created by him and for him" (Col. 1:16). How many Christians ever think of Christ as the One "by whom all things are created," as Colossians puts it; "by whom all things were made: as John puts it; "by whom God made the worlds," as Hebrews put it? Why did God make the universe, anyway? He made it that one day Christ might be all in all, that one day, from tiniest electron to mightiest planet, it might glorify Jesus. **Scientists cannot give the reason for the****

**universe: Christ is the reason. Creation is now enslaved in corruption, but one day it will display the glory of Christ, the bondage of sin will be broken, the Sons of God be manifested. And Christ not only created the universe and is its object but He sustains it now. The very existence of each of us, to say nothing of our salvation, depends on Him. Without Him the universe would fall apart.**

I would not serve God if He was subject to the whims of a "big bang" or mother nature. We are weak, but He is strong. When we put aside our own power and trust His power in our lives, then we become strong.

**2 Corinthians 12:10 (KJV) "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."**

Over and over God has shown us that it is not an issue of who *we are*, but **it is an issue of trusting the Immensity of God's power in your lives.**

**Zechariah 4:6 (KJV) "... This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."**

God's cry throughout all the ages has been:

**Jeremiah 27:5 (KJV) "I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me."**

## Review Text

12. There is no help nor comfort in believing evolutionary thought. What is my help and confidence? (2 Corinthians 12:10; Zechariah 4:6; Jeremiah 27:5)

This is my comfort, and should be your comfort. God, the God Whose power is immense, is in control of all things. Surrender your lives to Him.

### **3. Our God Is Immense In Knowledge, But We Are Limited In Knowledge**

**Job 38:6-7 (KJV) "Whereupon are the foundations<sup>7</sup> thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; {7} When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"**

<sup>7</sup> 'eden {pronounced eh'-den}, foundation, building support, pillar

Though **as humans we *strive for knowledge*, we are only limited in our knowledge**, whereas God is immense in wisdom (knowledge *applied*) and knowledge. Quite frankly, we just don't know! We do not know how God made all things with the breath of His mouth. We cannot understand that.

In our own minds we inflate our abilities - yet the immensity of God's knowledge shows our every prideful thought to be out of line. Many things in life are what we call *mysteries*, things that we have no ability to grasp in our own finite minds, but to God there is never a mystery. The Gospel message itself is a mystery:

**Ephesians 6:18-19 (KJV) "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; {19} And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,"**

It is a mystery to us that God would descend from Heaven and robe Himself in humanity as Christ did. It is a mystery to us that we who believe now have *Christ inside of us*:

**Colossians 1:27-28 (KJV) "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: {28} Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:"**

**1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV) "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."**

To mankind, the preaching of the Cross is a *foolish mystery*, and those who refuse Christ have never nor will ever *understand the Creator*.

**1 Corinthians 1:18-21 (KJV) "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us**  
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which are saved it is the power of God. {19} For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. {20} Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? {21} For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."

Do we understand *how* God created all things, and holds it - even now - in precise order. No, be we know that He did and does. Can I explain to you using human logic

Review Text
13. How God made all things is a mystery, but how He _____ is also a mystery. (Ephesians 6:18-19; Colossians 1:27-28).
14. God cloaked Himself in _____ in order that He come to atone for our sins. (1 Timothy 3:16)
15. Does the preraching of the Cross make <i>logical</i> sense? How does the world perceive the Cross? (1 Timothy 3:16; 1 Corinthians 1:18-21)

your need for the Savior? No, I cannot. But I can share this with you. None of us were there when God created all things. Yet all of the redeemed, those who have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior, were there when the Power of God came into your life and brought you into union with Him.

**He touched me, Oh, He touched me;  
And oh, the joy that floods my soul.  
Something happened, and now I know,  
He touched me and made me whole!**

And one final point: when man walks away from the truth that our God, Who is immense over **time**, **power**, and **knowledge**, then we place ourselves in a position where *life suddenly has no true value*. There is a reason that you will never see "Darwin's General Hospital", though you will find many Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, and so forth hospitals. This is because any system of thought that is not formed around the Loving Creator automatically lowers life to a series of *accidents*, *mistakes*, or *chemicals*. If you were merely goo that one day grew legs and walked out on shore, then you are ultimately no more than an accident. Accidents are not precious. This is the reason that abortion, adultery, drunkenness, and the other sins of the flesh have become so popular in America today. When life is an accident, then it has no purpose.

You are more than an accident. You are created beings, made by Almighty God. This God loves you so much that He sent His only begotten Son to die for you, and to rise again. Life is precious - you are precious. I pray that God will touch your heart with this message - and bring you back tonight to see that

**Hebrews 11:6 <sup>(KJV)</sup> ".. for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."**