



Before the THRONE
The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Job 38:1 & 40:1 – 5

“Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind... “Shall he that contends with the Almighty instruct Him? He that reproves God let him answer it.” Then Job answered the Lord, and said, “Behold I am vile; what shall I answer You? I will lay my hand upon my mouth. Once, I have spoken, but I will not answer; yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.” (Job 38:1 & 40:1-5)

We all have our opinions – what is worse is when we express those opinions in arrogance and our own secret confidences! Every maturing Christian at some point will face this situation – it is part of our schooling, our spiritual discipline – at some point we will answer to the Lord for those haughty and selfish inward and often hidden conceits.

It is in that moment of time where we see ourselves as we are without His cloak of glory – we see our insignificance apart from His sustaining Presence! We then see as Job did as we recognize those once lofty opinions for what they are in reality, “vanity of vanities; all is vanity.” (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

These moments are both painful and freeing! We are hurt to see our sin so blatantly manifesting itself before the Lord (and maybe others), but only once these things are exposed can we experience the joy of His forgiveness and instruction.

Be not dismayed as this instruction, (like all instruction in righteousness), it will be offered over and over until, you, the student, have learned to “lay your hand upon your mouth” knowing when to speak and when to “hold your peace.”

“Lord, I humble myself under Your instruction. Help me to willingly lay my hand upon my mouth lest I be found full of arrogance and conceit!”

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