

Introduction:

Most people think of unicorns as cuddly-cute magical rainbow sparkle horses. However, Starbucks began selling on Wednesday "unicorn Frappuccino" and what a commotion that comprised. Like its mythical namesake, the Unicorn Frappuccino comes with a bit of magic and is a colorful kaleidoscope of a drink." However, it appears that Starbucks baristas don't really like the drink. Braden Burson, a barista in Colorado, published a video rant on Twitter about the drink, saying that it is difficult to make and very messy. "Please don't get it!" he said in the video. I have never been so stressed out in my entire life." Even Fox news picked up on Burson's bombast over the unicorn drink. This morning we are going to look at the biblical unicorn and not its mythical namesake. The Bible in the book of Job mentions the Unicorn, in fact it was God himself so you cannot go out on a limb to say the Unicorn existed but God did not describe it as a rainbow sparkle horse.

This beast was spoken of when God challenged Job with 77 different questions for him to answer. Over the previous 35 chapters God has been directly absent from the account. We read nothing of God's direct role in comforting, speaking to, or sustaining Job in the midst of his crisis. Over that time, Job has yearned repeatedly for a word from God, now God breaks forth.

I. God Speaks to Job.

1. Job knocked on heaven's door, hoping to gain a legal court hearing so that he could ask God some tough questions about human suffering. Instead of appearing in court to accuse God of the unfairness of human suffering, God showed up as a whirlwind or tornado and interrogated Job with a bombardment of questions he could not possibly answer.

2. In verse two God said, "Who is this who darkens counsel with words without knowledge? God was rebuking Elihu, not Job. Elihu was the previous speaker who interrupted this word from the Lord, and who claimed to speak for God. Elihu had given four speeches to Job (six chapters and 165 verses!), but these speeches contained no knowledge. God was asking, 'Who is this that obscures my wisdom with such ignorant words?'

3. In verse three God declares to Job, Brace yourself like a man and get ready for a difficult task; I will question you and you will inform me! The Hebrew word for "man" is (gibor), meaning a strong man, mighty man, or warrior. God asked Job to become a strong warrior, because he was about to do battle with God. Instead of Job asking God questions, God was going to do the question-asking. Job was to be alert like a soldier so that he could answer God intelligently. This was a reversal of Job's words to God, "Let the Almighty answer me." Job the plaintiff had now become the defendant.

4. God will ask Job 77 questions about cosmology, meteorology, and astronomy that cannot be answered by feeble and finite men. The questions God had for Job were simply unanswerable and were meant to show Job that he really had no place to demand answers from God. The first

question begins in verse 4, "Where was Job when God was laying the foundations of the world?" This first question is a rebuke to modern secular scientists and evolution.

5. God Himself completed the creation of the entire universe. Only He could do it. It is foolish thinking for an evolutionary scientist to claim that nothing exploded into billions of galaxies and lifeless dirt became alive. Man was created in the image of God, not in the image of monkeys. **38:7** When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

The Hebrew word for "sang" is (ranan), meaning to shout in unison, shout for joy, or to sing aloud in joy. The Hebrew word for "in chorus" is (yachad), meaning all together in unison. At creation, the morning stars shouted together in joy and sang together in joy.

6. God asked this question to Job in Hebrew parallelism. The stars of the heaven were not made until the fourth day. Therefore, they could not physically shout or sing at creation (since they did not exist). Therefore, according to other scripture references, the morning stars were the same as the "sons of God" (Genesis 6:2, Job 1:6, Job 2:1). The sons of God were angels.

38:8 "Or *who* shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

Verses (8-11) Do you know the boundaries of the sea? There are a number of follow up questions in each category. (12-18) Do you understand the nature of the earth?

7. In chapter 38:13 God asked Job if he could grab the corners of the earth and shake the wicked out of it. God will actually do this at the end of the Great Tribulation. He will purge all wicked people off of the earth. The Millennial Kingdom will begin with 100% Jewish and Gentile believers. Unbelievers will be born to the Gentiles in the Millennial Kingdom.

In chapter 38: 19-24 God asks "Do you comprehend the nature of light, darkness, and the sky? 25-30) Do you understand the nature of the clouds, rain and its effects? 31-33) Do you know the nature of the constellations? (34-38) Do you know the nature of clouds, weather, and the human mind? 39-41) Do you understand and master the animal kingdom? God continued to ask Job more different high-level questions in which Job could not answer. ---gospel

II God Continues to Question Job- 39

1. Chapter 38 had shown God in His past creation and chapter 39 will reveal God in nature. In verses 1-12 questions regarding the nature and behavior of mountain goats, deer, wild donkeys and wild oxen are demanded of Job to answer. 39:1 "Are you acquainted with the way the mountain goats give birth? Do you watch as the wild deer give birth to their young? 39:2 Do you count the months they carry, and do you know the time they give birth?

In chapter 39 and verse 5 God asked Job if he could free the wild donkey so that he could travel to the salt lands. Wild donkeys preferred to range on hills away from the noises of human civilization.

2. Though Job didn't know these principles of the natural order, he had to admit that the natural order all seemed to work pretty well. All these questions brought Job before another truth: "I see that this world made by God operates with remarkable order and wisdom. ---Psalm 19:1

3. In chapter 39:9 the Hebrew word for "unicorn" is (raem / reh-ām), which is similar to a rhinoceros. This animal is a fearsome, mighty, extinct animal possibly known as the (*owl rocks*) aurochs. The Webster dictionary states this is an extinct large long-horned wild ox of Europe ancestor of the domestic cattle. Extinct since 1627, this enormous animal was the most powerful of all hoofed beasts, exceeded in size only by the hippopotamus and the elephant. It is the standard symbol of strength in the Old Testament, it is mentioned nine times." **Numbers 23:22**

4. God asked Job if he had the ability to tame this "unicorn" wild beast. God asked Job if he had the ability to capture this wild beast with a rope and make it thresh grain from the threshing floor. Let's look at some of the other questions God ask in regards to the unicorn. Will the wild ox consent to being tamed? Will it spend the night in your stall? Can you hitch a wild ox to a plow? Will it plow a field for you? Given its strength, can you trust it? Can you leave and trust the ox to do your work? Can you rely on it to bring home your grain and deliver it to your threshing floor?

5. In chapter 39 and verse 13-18 God asked questions regarding ostriches. God asked Job if he would be able to create such an odd bird as the ostrich. The ostrich grows to about eight feet high and 130 pounds, but it cannot fly. She is a very stupid bird, as she often forgets about her young. Often, she leaves her eggs in the dirt. She does not treat her young very well. She acts as though her young do not even belong to her. God did not give much wisdom to the ostrich, but she will spring up and challenge a horse and its rider.

6. In chapter 39 and verse 19- 25 God asked Job if he could have created a creature as magnificent as the war horse. The war horse possesses mighty strength, speed, and courage. He does not fear the sword or the battle. The horse cannot wait for the trumpet to blow so that he can charge in battle.

7. God asked Job if he could have created any bird as magnificent as the hawk (or possibly the eagle, vulture, or another predator bird). The hawk soars high in the sky. Annually, in migration, she spreads her wings towards the south. She builds her nest high on the cliffs. She lives in the rocks of the high mountains. She has such keen eyes, that she spots her prey from high in the sky. She brings her prey to her young ones. The young ones devour a bloody feast.

Conclusion:

Job could not answer any of these 77 questions. None of these questions contained anything about suffering. God never even addressed the reason for suffering. These questions will show Job's ignorance and God's greatness. God's questions demonstrated to Job that he had no business criticizing the Creator God of the universe. This is God's world, not Job's. The Creator not only has wisdom and power but He is a God of love in whom Job should trust.