The YHWH Speeches (38-42)
God’s Interest in Job

God’s Redemptive Plan to bring the cosmos back into conformity with His will (Genesis 3:15; Psalm 2; Galatians 1:4; 1 John 3:1).

God’s Work in the Human Race

- Justification (Rom 4, 5)
- Sanctification (Rom 6; 1 Thess 4)
- Glorification (1 Cor 1:30; 2 Thess 2:13; Eph 5:26; 1 Cor 15)

Tools:
- Christ’s Intercessory Ministry (Heb 7:25)
- Holy Spirit empowers Christians for holiness and ministry (John 17:18-19)
God’s Work in the Human Race

• God’s appearance to Job should be viewed in this redemptive context.
• God asks a total of 70 questions of Job.
• God never responds to Job’s questions *per se*, nor does God explicitly address the question of suffering. But what God has to say does indeed imminently bear on the matter of human suffering.

God’s Work in the Human Race

• Why 70? Perhaps a representation of God’s judgment.
• Seventy Israelites went into Egypt (Gen 46:27)
• Moses and the 70 elders (Num 11:24)
• The slaughter of Ahab’s 70 sons (2 Ki 10)
• Lifespan “labor and sorrow” consists of 70 years (Ps 90:10)
• Babylonian Exile of 70 years (Jer 25:11)
• Jesus commissioned 70 missionaries (Lk 10)
Three Discourses

There are three discourses, the first two interrupted briefly with a statement of repentance by Job (40:3-5), then the third. The themes of the discourses are:

- **God’s Wisdom** as demonstrated by His creating and sustaining power over the cosmos (38:3-38)
- **God’s Love** as demonstrated by His intimate care for animals (38:39-39:30)
- **God’s Omnipotence** as demonstrated by His power to protect from danger (40:14-41:34)

Twelve Sections (38-41)

1. Job’s first heresy: misrepresenting God’s character without knowledge (38:2).
2. God’s creative power over the cosmos (38:3-15).
   - Earth (38:4-7)
   - Water (38:8-11)
   - Light and Darkness (38:12-15)
3. God’s sustaining power over the cosmos (38:16-38).
   - Light and Darkness (38:16-21)
   - Water (38:22-30)
   - Stars (38:31-33)
   - Water, light and earth all coordinated (38:34-38)
6. Job’s confession (40:3-5).
8. Job’s fourth heresy: condemning God in order to justify himself (40:8b).
10. God’s taming power over man’s enemies (40:15 - 41:10a; 41:12-34).
11. Job’s sixth heresy: thinking he has moral authority to stand before God (41:10b).
12. Job’s seventh heresy: believing God is somehow indebted to him (41:11).
Seven Moral Questions (38-41)

There are seven moral questions or heresies. God points out each one in the form of questions. The questions are asked, and Job could have responded but doesn’t. These serve to illustrate what Job wrongly believed. Moral questions:

1. Misrepresenting God’s character without knowledge (38:2).
2. Contending with God (40:2).
3. Questioning God’s judgment (40:8a).
4. Condemning God in order to justify himself (40:8b).
5. Exaggerating human power compared to God’s (40:9).
6. Thinking humans have sufficient moral authority to stand before God (41:10).
7. Believing God is somehow indebted to human being (41:11).

Thirty Questions on Physics (38)

The 30 questions fall into ten groupings.

1. Earth (38:4-7).
2. Sea (38:8-11).
5. Light (38:19-21).
7. Storms (38:24-27).
Thirty Questions on Physics (38)

• These questions relate to the physical sciences but go to the larger question as to why God created the cosmos.
• Earth is an integral part of a massive universe.
• Both the earth and the universe were designed by God and operate in the way He created them. “For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), ‘I am the LORD, and there is none else’” (Isa 45:18).
• Each of the 30 questions on physics is designed to illustrate Job’s lack of knowledge as to either how the creation came into being, or how it is being supernaturally managed in a fallen cosmos, or how it will be restored in the eschaton.

Earth (38:4-7)

• Here is a commentary on the fourth day of Creation Week, providing details not presented in the Genesis account.
• The first chapter of the Book of John provides further commentary on Creation Week, as does Colossians 1:15-17.
• In Job 38:4-6, God claims to have laid the foundations of the earth and measured them carefully, all of which took place during the first three days.
• In Job 38:7, God recounts the events of the fourth day, when He created the stars and the angels who sang.
The Raqia

- The Fourth Day of Creation Week was a momentous day in terms of cosmology. Job 37:10 states that the “expanse” (NASB) or “firmament” (KJV), mentioned in Genesis 1:6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 17, and 20, is frozen water. This is the translation of the Hebrew word ṭaqιa (רָקִיﬠַ), and it is mentioned in Job 37:10 and 38:18.

- Psalm 19:1 and 15:1 mention the ṭaqιa, and it is referred to in Ezekiel 1:22, 23, 25, 26, and 10:1, and finally in Daniel 12:3.

- The Hebrew lexicons define ṭaqιa as an extended, flat surface, or solid expanse as if beaten out (BDB). A plate or dome (HALOT), canopy or broad “expanse of heaven” as Daniel 12:3 translates it. It identifies God’s heavenly expanse.

The Raqia

- Genesis 1 uses ṭaqιa interchangeably for the “open expanse of the heavens” in which birds fly (Gen 1:20), i.e. earth’s atmosphere, and that farther expanse of sky in which God placed “the lights for signs and for seasons” (Gen 1:14, 17), referring apparently to empty space.

- It is this empty space over which God has stretched out the ṭaqιa as described by Job who said, “He stretches out the north” (Job 26:7) (TWOT). Elihu asks Job, “Can you, with Him, spread out the skies, strong as a molten mirror? (Job 37:18). Psalm 150 begins with a call to worship, “Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse (ṛaqi’a).” (Psa 150:1). These verses suggest the ṭaqιa possesses some sort of strength. Isaiah states, “It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. ( Isa 40:22).
The Raqia

- **Raqia** is also used to describe Ezekiel's heavenly vision of an expanse over the heads of angelic beings, "Now over the heads of the living beings there was something like an expanse, like the awesome gleam of crystal, spread out over their heads" (Eze 1:22). The ESV says, "shining like awe-inspiring crystal."

- Over the last 40 years, cosmologists have struggled to explain the apparent lack of matter in the universe that would account for the behavior of galaxies and the effects of gravity. Some cosmologists have invented the idea of "dark matter" to deal with this problem. Dark matter, if it did exist, would comprise 96 percent of the matter in the universe, and what we call "normal matter" would comprise only 4% of the universe. Dark matter is defined as matter with mass but which does not interact with radiation. Such matter has yet to be discovered.
Natah

• Creation cosmologists have proposed that the raqia is that missing matter. Job 37:10 seems to suggest that it is made of frozen water, which is consistent with 2 Peter 3:5-6. At some point after Day One of Creation Week, the raqia was “stretched out” (natah, נָטָה), as stated in Psalm 104:2; Isaiah 40:22; 42:5; 44:24.
• These passages suggest that the raqia was stretched out or extended out like a tent (Strong, BDB). It was Job who observed in 26:7, “He stretches out (natah) the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.”
• Creation scientists have proposed that the process of stretching out (natah) was done on Day 4. Big-bangers say everything was created at t=0, at the start of Day 1. Here is a point of disagreement between big bangers and creationists.

Galactocentricity

• Both the 2d GRS (2dGalaxy Redshift Survey) and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey of 2003 mapped 600,000 galaxies in 6% of the sky, showing density rings forming concentric patterns, with earth at the center. Results from the 2dGRS and SDS lead us to conclude that the universe is isotopic. In a big bang universe, the density of galaxies should increase with distance, however, just the opposite is observed, and further, there appear to be density bands which the big bang doesn’t explain. 2dGRS and SDS depict spherically concentric shells centered on our galaxy.
• http://www.2dfgrs.net/
• http://www.sdss.org/
Galactocentricity

“Over the last few decades, new evidence has surfaced that restores man to a central place in God’s universe. Astronomers have confirmed that numerical values of galaxy redshifts are ‘quantized’, tending to fall into distinct groups. According to Hubble’s law, redshifts are proportional to the distances of the galaxies from us. Then it would be the distances themselves that fall into groups. That would mean the galaxies tend to be grouped into (conceptual) spherical shells concentric around our home galaxy, the Milky Way. The shells turn out to be on the order of a million light years apart. The groups of redshifts would be distinct from each other only if our viewing location is less than a million light years from the centre. The odds for the Earth having such a unique position in the cosmos by accident are less than one in a trillion. Since big bang theorists presuppose the cosmos has naturalistic origins and cannot have a unique centre, they have sought other explanations, without notable success so far. Thus, redshift quantization is evidence (1) against the big bang theory, and (2) for a galactocentric cosmology.”
References: Starlight and Time. D. Russell Humphreys
http://www.ias.ac.in/jarch/jaa/18/455-463.pdf

Galactocentricity

- The big bang would have produced a homogeneous universe, and our universe is not homogeneous but galactocentric. “We live in a galactocentric universe. We are located in a special place. The universe we see is isotropic in the distribution of galaxies and quasars; it is definitely not homogeneous.”
- Our galaxy is somewhere near the unique center of the universe created by God. We can observe His glory in the heavens all around us. The universe is finite in size and has expanded (was stretched out) by an enormous factor since the initial creation. As a result of this expansion, new matter was created as a consequence of conservation of mass/energy. The initial creation was ex nihilo, and God is not limited to His natural laws, which are in any case, merely our descriptions of god’s normal mode of upholding his creation in a regularly repeatable way.
Galactocentricity

- There is no clear consensus among creation and secular cosmologists as to whether the universe is still expanding.
- An expanding universe, set in motion when God stretched out the raqia, would explain the redshifted light from the galaxies.
- Clear consensus is lacking as to whether the universe is expanding now. “What we not observe in the universe is the redshifted light from the galaxies, which has resulted from the expansion, not from this time-dilation mechanism. The light is continuing to travel towards the earth from the distant galaxies, as it has for billions of years by cosmological clocks, but because earth clocks now run at the same rate, we only observe expansion effects.” The light we now see is expansion light. Clocks in the cosmos have been running at the same speed as earth clocks ever since Day 4, but the actual speed of light c has never changed.
- On Day 4, God stretched out the fabric of space itself, as He spread out the heavens. This divine expansion may have stopped after Day 4, because the environment of our solar system is designed for life (Isa 45:18).

Noahic Covenant

The first covenant articulated in the Bible is the Noahic Covenant (6:18; 8:20-9:17). It is a contract. The parties to the covenant were:

- YHWH as grantor and
- The following grantees:
  - Noah,
  - The entire human race after him (Gen 9:9), and
  - The animal kingdom (Gen 9:2, 10, 16, 17).
Noahic Covenant

• The Noahic Covenant is unilateral. God made all of the promises and as stated in 8:21-22, “The LORD said to Himself, "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done. 22 "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease.”
• God pledged never again to destroy:
  – The entire human race
  – The animal kingdom
  – The earth, its four seasons and its meteorological cycles.

God Controls the Weather

• Job 5:10, “He (God) gives rain on the earth, And sends water on the fields.”
• Job 37 and 38 (the entire chapters)
• Deuteronomy 11:14-17, “He (God) will give the rain for your land in its season, the early and late rain, that you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil. 15 And He will give grass in your fields for your cattle, and you shall eat and be satisfied. 16 Beware, lest your hearts be deceived and you turn away and serve other gods and worship them. 17 Or the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and He will shut up the heavens so that there will be no rain and the ground will not yield its fruit; and you will perish quickly from the good land which the LORD is giving you.”
• Jeremiah 14:22, “Are there any among the idols of the nations who give rain? Or can the heavens grant showers? Is it not Thou, O LORD our God? Therefore we hope in Thee, For Thou art the one who hast done all these things.”
God Controls the Weather

- Job was apparently fascinated with clouds. In Job 26:8 he stated that God, “… wraps up the waters in His clouds and the cloud does not burst under them.” [This doesn’t seem like a noteworthy comment unless it is read in context with a relatively new phenomenon.]

- Job also observed the shadowing effect on the moon by clouds. “He obscures the face of the full moon and spreads his cloud over it” Job 26:9.

- The night sky exposes the universe to full view, “[God] commands the sun not to shine and sets a seal upon the stars,” Job 9:7. Perhaps evidence for the removal of an opaque canopy of moisture, caused by the Flood.

- Job knew the earth was a globe (Job 26:10; cf. Isa 40:22; Prov 8:27).

God Controls the Weather

- Within two to three hundred years after the Flood, Elihu described a great ice age and made this observation: “From the breath of God, ice is made, and the expanse of the waters is frozen,” Job 37:10.

- “For to the snow He says, ‘Fall on the earth,’ and to the downpour and the rain, ‘Be strong,’” Job 37:6.

- The monologue presented by God Himself in chapter 38 has even more to say about the supernatural formation of ice, rain, and the Flood.
God Controls the Weather

- Psalm 147:7-8, “Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises to our God on the lyre, Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who provides rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains.”
- Proverbs 3:9-10, “Honor the LORD from your wealth, And from the first of all your produce; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.”
- Ezekiel 31:15, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “On the day when it went down to Sheol I caused lamentations; I closed the deep over it and held back its rivers. And its many waters were stopped up, and I made Lebanon mourn for it, and all the trees of the field wilted away on account of it.”’
- Ezekiel 34:26-27, “And I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing. Also the tree of the field will yield its fruit, and the earth will yield its increase, and they will be secure on their land. Then they will know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bars of their yoke and have delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them.”

God Controls the Weather

- Amos 4:7, “And furthermore, I withheld the rain from you While there were still three months until harvest. Then I would send rain on one city And on another city I would not send rain; One part would be rained on, While the part not rained on would dry up.”
- Amos 9:6, “The One who builds His upper chambers in the heavens, And has founded His vaulted dome over the earth, He who calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the face of the earth, The LORD is His name.”
- Jonah 1:4, “And the LORD hurled a great wind on the sea and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship was about to break up.”
- Haggai 1:10-11, “Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. And I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.”
God Controls the Weather

- Zechariah 10:1, “Ask rain from the LORD at the time of the spring rain-- The LORD who makes the storm clouds; And He will give them showers of rain, vegetation in the field to each man.”
- Zechariah 14:17-18, “And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. And if the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no rain will fall on them; it will be the plague with which the LORD smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths.”
- Luke 8:25, Jesus calms the storm. “Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?”
- James 5:17-18, “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain; and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the sky poured rain, and the earth produced its fruit.”

James Hansen (Oct 2006)

- The causes of global warming are totally driven by human activity. Greenhouse emissions are the cause. The aim is to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions.
- There is a complete certainty that at least 1/4th of all CO2 that we put in the atmosphere will stay there forever.
- We must close down all coal fired plants between 2025 and 2050.
- Another ice age cannot occur unless humans become extinct.
- Two irreversible processes are: ocean level rise, and extermination of the human species.
The “Best Guess” on GT History

Fig. 3. Global average temperature reconstruction based upon 18 temperature proxies for the period 1 A.D. to 1995, combined with the thermometer-based dataset from the UK Met Office and University of East Anglia, covering the period 1850 to 2007. Note that for both datasets each data point represents a 30-year average.

Directly-measured temperature

Fig. 1. Globally averaged temperature variations between 1850 and 2007 show the emergence from the “Little Ice Age” in the early 1900s, slight cooling from the 1940s to the 1970s, and then warming again since the 1970s. (HadCRUT3 temperature dataset from the UK Met Office and Univ. of E. Anglia)
Actual Undoctored Data

A Sun-Climate Link?
Earth’s climate controls
Energy balance: solar energy in = Earth radiant energy out

Precipitation Systems Alter H_{2}O, Redistribute Both H_{2}O and Heat

Fig. 7. Atmospheric air gets continuously recycled through precipitation systems, which then directly or indirectly control the water vapor and cloud properties, and thus the Earth’s natural greenhouse effect.
A rain shower removing Earth’s primary greenhouse gas – water vapor.

GHG Primer

- A GHG absorbs and emits radiation in the thermal infrared range.
- All molecules made of 3 or more atoms are GHGs. This includes H2O, CO2, CH4, NO2 and O3.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Compound</th>
<th>Formula</th>
<th>Contribution (%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water vapor</td>
<td>H2O</td>
<td>36-72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carbon dioxide</td>
<td>CO2</td>
<td>9-26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methane</td>
<td>CH4</td>
<td>4-9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ozone</td>
<td>O3</td>
<td>3-7%</td>
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GHG Primer

- The oceans uptake about half of the CO2 in the atmosphere.
- Half-life of CO2 in the atmosphere is ~ 100 yr.
- Most CO2 emissions come from coal.
- The US is the largest per capita CO2 emitter, China is the largest total CO2 emitter.
- AB32 established a goal requiring California’s global warming emissions be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020.

Global Sea Level

Source: U. of Colorado

[Graph showing sea level rise with various projections, including Gore, Schwarzenegger, IPCC, and Actual Data]
During the Flood (Ps 104:6-9)

6 You covered it [the earth] with the deep as with a garment; The waters were standing above the mountains. 7 At Your rebuke they fled, At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away. 8 The mountains rose; the valleys sank down To the place which You established for them. 9 You set a boundary that they may not pass over, So that they will not return to cover the earth.

The Real Global Climate Change

- The Bible describes the pre-Flood world as a relatively warm environment with no rain or storms (Gen 2:5-6).
- If this is true, it seems plausible that no ice sheets (glaciers) existed prior to the Flood. Even if they had existed, they would have been destroyed by the Flood.
- The average global ocean temperature today is about 3.5 degrees C.
- Analyzing the distribution of oxygen isotopes found in ice cores throughout the Arctic Circle, atmospheric models have been used to calculate a mean sea-surface temperature of 24 degrees C at the end of the Flood.

Warm temperatures caused the earth to experience a global cooling process with high rates of evaporation.

This in turn prompted upper atmosphere cooling with heavy rates of condensation, creating post-Flood precipitation in the form of rain, snow, and ice.

By this process, the earth was able to cool rapidly while layers of ice were deposited at the North and South Poles. During this period of rapid cooling, global climates were changing quickly, and some areas which are deserts today would have been well watered at the time.

The earth was exponentially approaching a new norm.
Lifespans Before and After the Flood

- Average = 912
  (Adam to Noah)

- Average = 336
  (Shem to Abram)

*Enoch was taken away at the age of 366

The Real Global Climate Change

- The area around Sodom and Gomorrah south of the Dead Sea receives only 2-4 inches of rainfall today, yet according to Gen 13:10, it was “well watered” in 2,075 BC, Abraham’s 90th birthday.

- If Job lived before Abraham, the Land of Uz in which he lived (near Sodom and Gomorrah) would also have been well watered, perhaps even more than during Abraham’s time.

- Job lived during a time of dramatic transition in the global climate.

- Job described a new hydrologic cycle in which, “Water evaporates from the sea, and a river becomes parched and dried up,” Job 14:11.
Sahara Desert

Total Production

- Sarir / Sirt Tazerbo / Bengazi System: 2.0 MCMD
- Hasouna / Jefara System: 2.5 MCMD
- Al Gardabiya / As sadadah Link: 0.249 MCMD
- Kufra / Tazerbo System: 1.68 MCMD
- Ghadames / Zuwarah / Al Zawia System: 6.57 MCMD
GMR Project

Ancient water system map on copper, discovered in the Sahara Desert, dating to 2500 BC or earlier.
Libyan Museum 2009
Global Ice Age

- Secular climatologists do not have a fully-accepted model for the cause of the “Ice Age” or for the process of deglaciation.
- The popular secular theory suggests high oxygen isotope ratios in seafloor sediments ($\delta^{18}O$) can indicate times of maximum glacial extent.
- Secular climatologists require time scales of at least 100,000 years to explain the so-called “Ice Age.”

Global Ice Age

- The best current explanation for the formation of the polar ice caps and glaciers is provided by a literal reading of a young earth and global Flood as described in the Bible.
- Job also describes the world as being explored during Job’s lifetime (28:3).
- Iron, copper, precious metals, gems, and minerals were being mined (Job 28:2, 4, 6).
Global Ice Age

- Human beings were engaged in great earthmoving operations (28:9), channelizing rivers and building reservoirs (28:10-11).
- Enterprises such as these probably couldn’t have been undertaken successfully without a body of scientific knowledge and engineering that survived the antediluvian world.
- Through hard work and ingenuity, the 70 nations of Genesis 10 were acclimating to the new global environment, populating the world in obedience to Gen 9:1 and subduing it in obedience to Gen 1:28.

Mapping the Globe

- The earth’s geographical features were accurately mapped from pole to pole during the post-flood period.
- Ancient world maps dating back to the 15th century have been preserved which show the Americas and Antarctica when its coasts and inland areas were free of ice.
- It is clear that instruments of navigation existed to accurately determine longitudes that were far superior to anything that existed in antiquity all the way up to the second half of the 18th century.
- One such map was prepared by the French cartographer Oronteus Finaeus (1494-1555).
We are left with strong evidence that, following the Flood, the world was settled and mapped by a highly industrious and intelligent people.

Civilizations which existed after the Flood had the capacity to travel worldwide, and were thoroughly skilled in astronomy, nautical science, mapmaking, and ship building.

These people may have been more advanced than any culture prior to the 18th century.