

Chafer Conference Message # 1:

The Doxological Theology of Post-Flood "Filling the Earth":
Original v. Post-Flood Genesis Mandate; Job 39; Psalms 8 & 104; etc.

What is “doxological apologetics” ?

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.

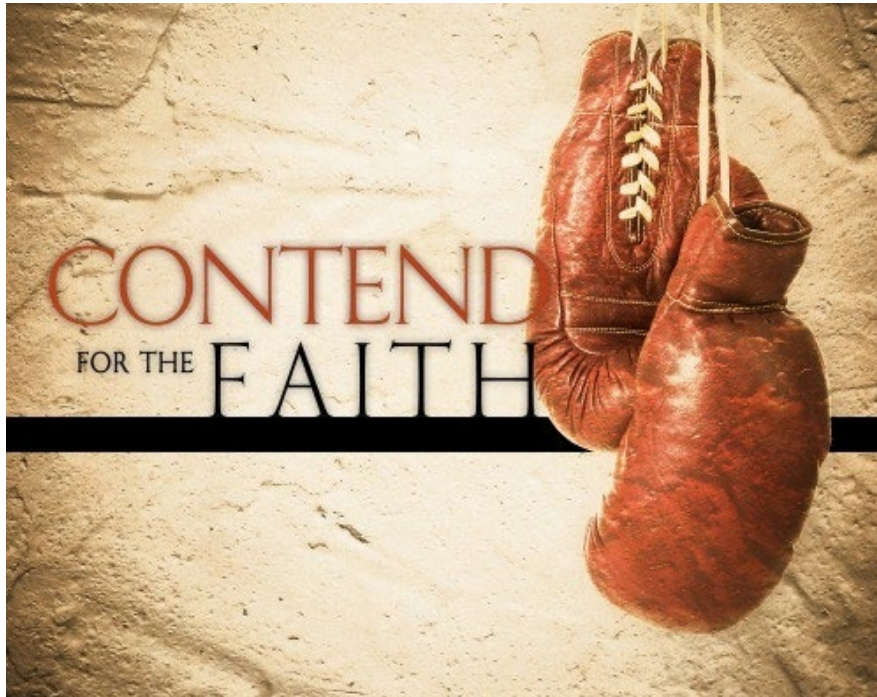
(1st Peter 3:15)

Also, how is it related to epistemology?

I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy name for Thy lovingkindness and for Thy truth: for Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all thy name.

(Psalm 138:2)

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that **ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered** [*hapax paradotheisê tois hagiois pistei*] **unto the saints.** **Jude 1:3**

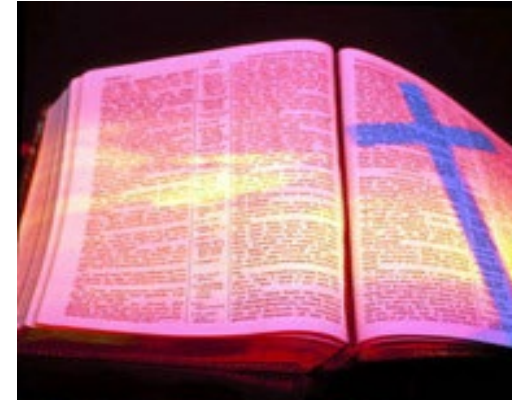


Jude's epistle urges us to “**earnestly contend**” for the *once-given-to-the-saints* faith: *that's apologetics!*



Yet notice also how much **Jude's epistle** is tied to *the authority and authoritative relevance of Genesis!*

**Genesis is history,
not “Hebrew poetry”**



Some Get a “Bang” Out of Fables

**The Bible, to read, some are able,
Yet prefer to read a false fable;
Though God’s Word says “six days,”
A “Big Bang” gets their praise,
Their doctrine, therefore, is unstable.**

²⁷ So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.
²⁸ And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.
(**Genesis 1:27-28**, *the original “Dominion Mandate”*)



³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, “Where is the promise of his coming? **For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation**”. ⁵ For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water, ⁶ whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished. (2nd Peter 3:3-6)



And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.
² And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.
(**Genesis 9:1-7**, *the revised Genesis Mandate*)



2 family histories



Adam's family we were born into; we had no choice to be born into it, but being adopted into God's forever family requires a personal decision.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. ¹¹ He came unto his own, and His own received him not. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them gave He power ["authority"] to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. (John 1:10-12)

you could have been a *grackle!*



For the invisible [αορατα] things of Him from the creation [κτισεως] of the world are clearly seen [καθοραται], being understood [νοουμενα] by the things that are made [ποιημασιν], even His eternal power and deity; so that they are without excuse [αναπολογητους], ... (Romans 1:20)



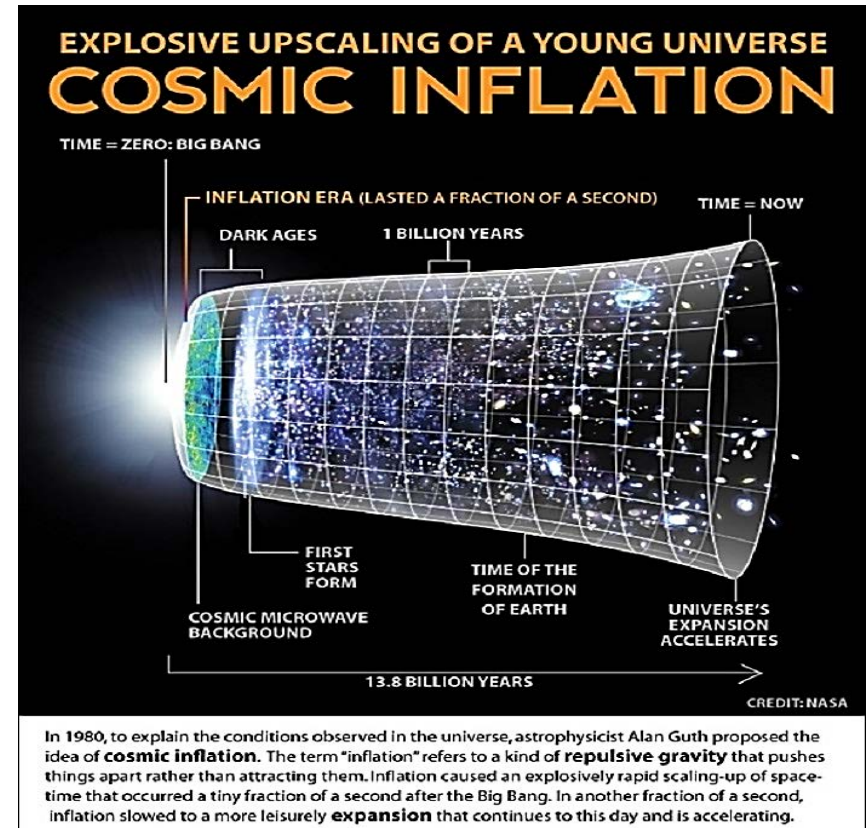
... because that, when they knew God, they glorified [εδοξασαν] Him not as God, neither were thankful [ευχαριστησαν]; but became vain [εματαιωθησαν] in their imaginations [διαλογισμοις], and their foolish [ασυνετος] heart was darkened [εσκοτισθη]. (**Romans 1:21**)



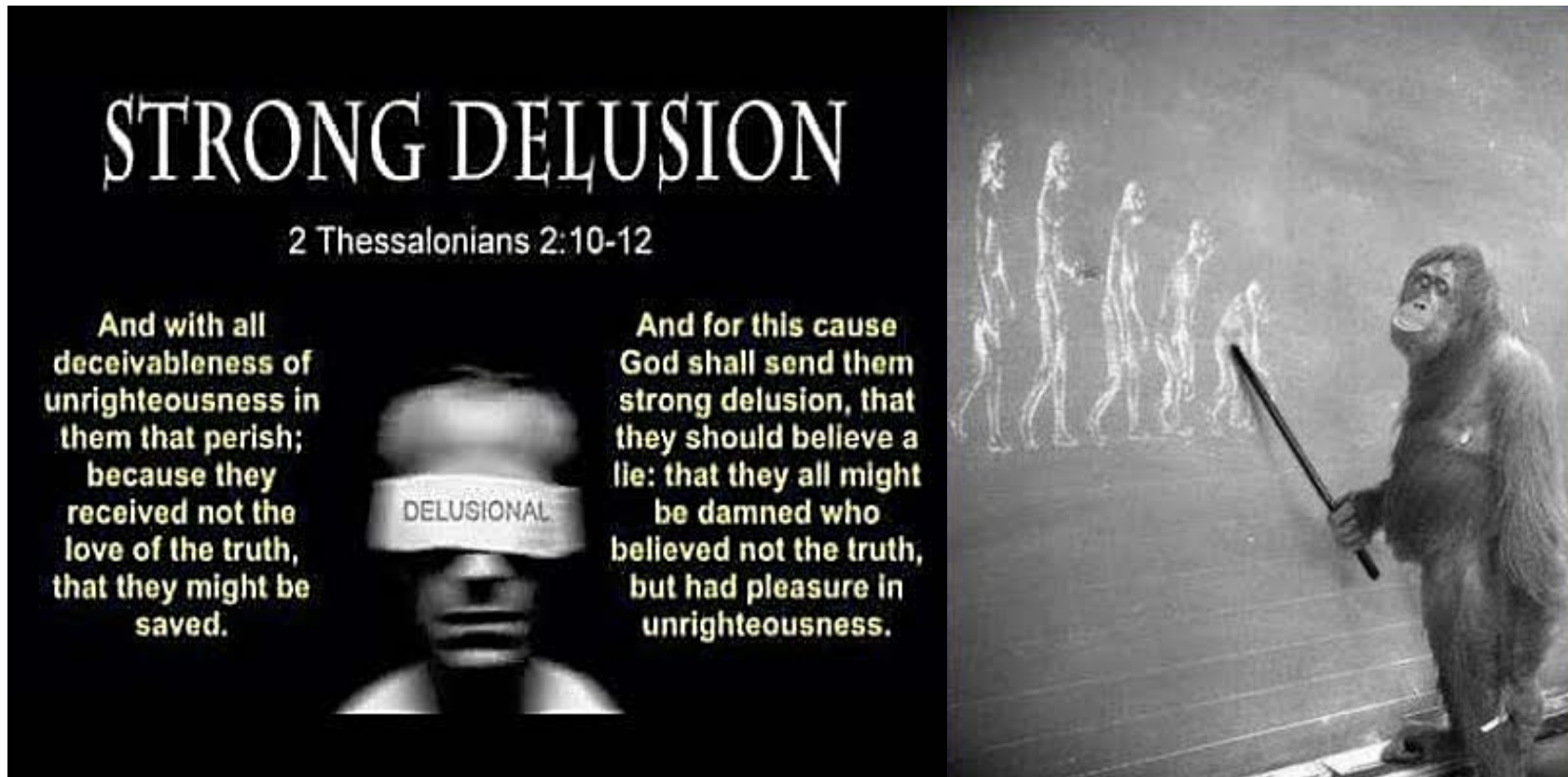
Professing themselves to be wise [σοφοι], they became fools [εμωρανθησαν], and they changed [ηλλαξαν] the glory [δοξαν] of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and 4-footed beasts, and creeping things.
(Romans 1:22-23)



...who changed [μετηλλαξαν] the truth of God into a lie [ψευδει], and worshipped and served the creature/creation [κτισει] more than the Creator [τον κτισαντα = *He Who created*], Who is blessed for ever. Amen. (Romans 1:25)



And even as they did not like to retain [εδοκιμασαν] God in their knowledge, God gave them over [παρεδωκεν] unto a reprobate [αδοκιμον] mind [νουν], to do things which are improper... (Romans 1:28)



STRONG DELUSION

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

DELUSIONAL

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

First, we need **God** to be created!
Also, we need **God** to save us from sin.
Always, we need **God** to give us truth.



Besides during **Creation Week** and **the Flood**, does the Bible doxologically showcase God's providence in **animal ecology**?



Although His [i.e. God's] greatest provisions are for men and women, He also provides for animals, and even for the land itself, "to cause it to rain on the earth, where no man is; on the wilderness, wherein there is no man; to satisfy the desolate and waste ground; and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth" (**Job 38:26-27**). "He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field: . . . By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle [i.e., livestock], . . . So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, . . . **These wait all upon Thee, that Thou mayest give them their food in due season They are filled with good**" (Psalm 104:10,11,12,14,25,27,28). **If God is so careful to provide for His creatures, we as His stewards thereof should also care for them.** Henry Morris, "The Bible, Creation, and Ecology", *Acts & Facts* (Nov. AD1991).

God is more majestic than mountains filled with wildlife !

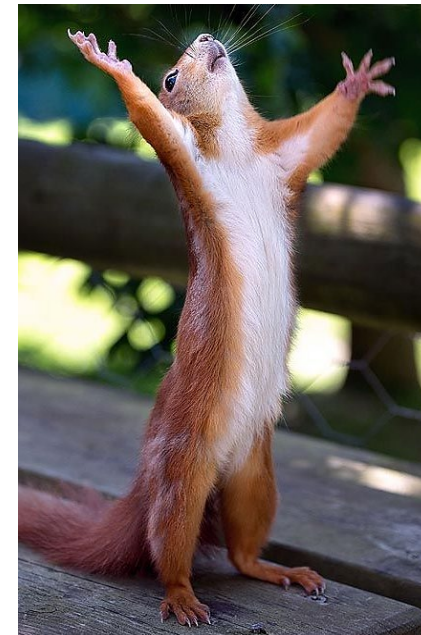
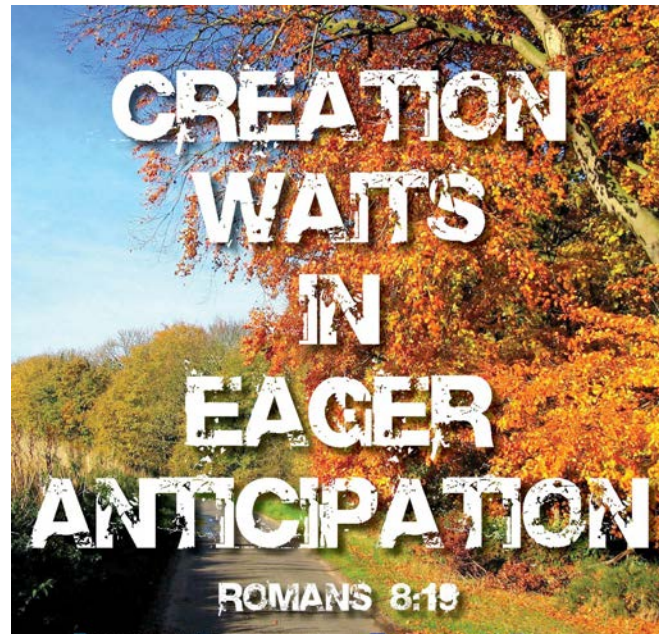


JOB chapter 39



How do examples of God's caring providence for animals, such as the animal pairs noted in Job chapter 39, teach the suffering patriarch Job -- and us -- about God?

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation [της κτισεως] waits for the manifestation of the sons of God. ... For we know that the whole creation [η κτισις] groaneth and travails in pain together until now. (Romans 8:18-19,22)



Wilt you hunt the prey for the **lion** [לְבַיָּא]? Or fill the appetite of the young lions [כְּפִיָּרִים], when they couch in their dens, and abide in concealment to lie in wait? (Job 38:39-40)



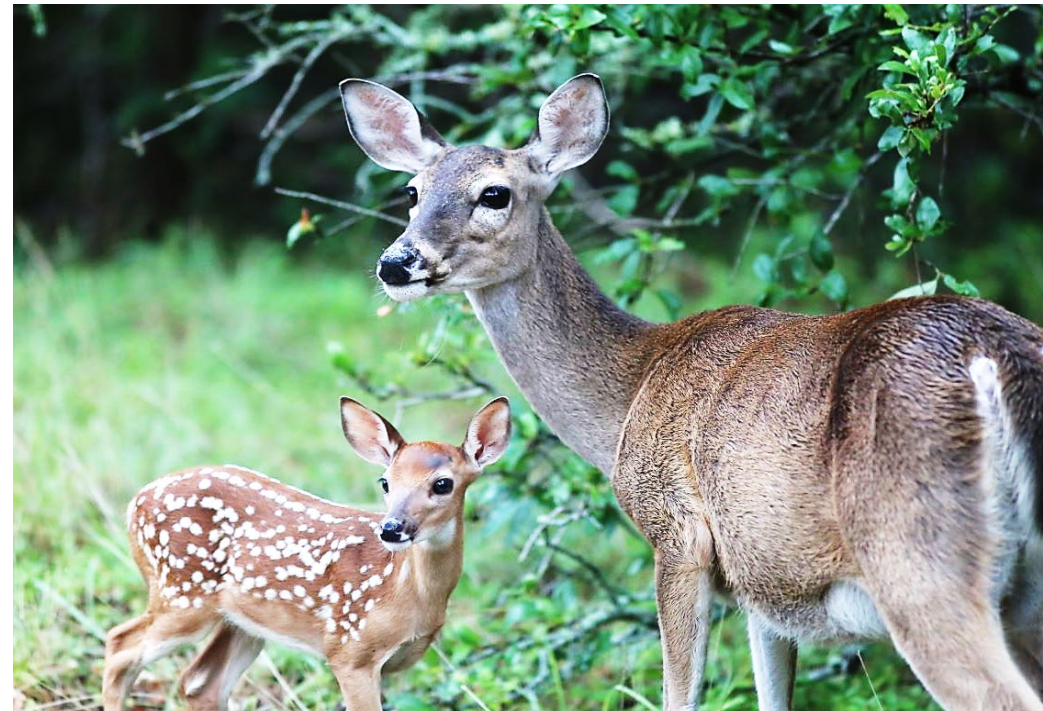
Who provides [יִכְיִן] for the raven [עֹרֵב] its food? When its young ones [יִלְדָיו] cry [עֹרֵב] unto God [אֵל-אֵל], they wander for lack of food. (Job 38:41)



Do you know the time when the **wild goats of the rock** [*ya'elê-sâla*] bring forth [infinitive of *yâlad*]? (Job 39:1a)



Or can you mark when the **hinds** [*'ayyâlôth* = “female deer”] do calve? Can you number [*sâphar* imperfect] the months that they fulfil? Or do you know the time when they bring forth [*piel* imperfect of *yâlad*]? ... Their young ones [*benêhem* = “their children”] ... grow up with grass/grain [i.e., in fields]; they go forth and return not unto them. (Job 39:1b-4)



Who hath sent out the wild donkey [פִּרְא], free? Or who has loosed the bands of the wild donkey [עֲרוֹד]? His house I have made the wilderness [עֲרָבָה], and the salt-land [מִלְחָה] is his dwellings; he scorns the multitude of the city, neither regards he the crying of the driver. The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searches after every green thing. (Job 39:5-8)



Will the unicorn [*re'ēm* = **rhinoceros***] be willing to serve you, or abide by your crib? Can you bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? Or will he harrow the valleys after you? Will you trust him, because his strength is great? Or will you leave your labor to him? Will you believe [i.e., entrust unto] him, that he will bring home your seed, and gather it into your barn? (Job 39:9-12) *See Deuteronomy 33:17, with JJSJ, "Skeptics' Pointless Ridicule of the Bible's 'Unicorns'", *Acts & Facts*, 47(2):21 (February 2018).



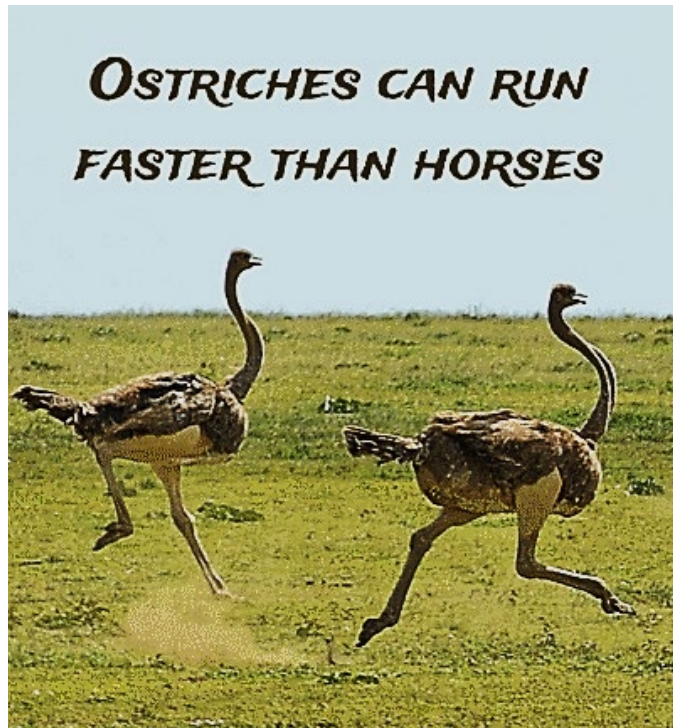
What about the wings of “ostriches”*? (Job 39:13)

The **ostrich wing** (*kenaph-renânîm* in Job 39:13) is not designed for flying. However, that does not mean those wings (like the wings of other ratite birds) are useless, because flapping wings are useful to the ostrich: they are used for courtship displays, they conserve body heat (including coverage of upper leg skin) during cold nights, and they can radiate excess body heat during hot days. Moreover, the ostrich uses his or her wings like an aerodynamic “rudder”, for quick change-of-direction steering while running at high speeds. These unusual wings—and the ostrich’s unusual speed—are traits that God emphasizes to Job, as God explains how He balances creaturely limitations with providential traits (for “filling” parts of the earth), so that the overall outcome is a success story.

*[*renânîm* = pl. noun, from verb *rânan* = “to call/sing/shout/scream/cry loudly”]



“... she leaves her eggs in/on the earth, and she warms them in dust, and she forgets that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them. ... God hath deprived her [i.e., [mama ostrich](#)] of wisdom, neither has He imparted unto her understanding. When she lifts up herself on high, she scorns the horse and his rider.” (Job 39:14-18)



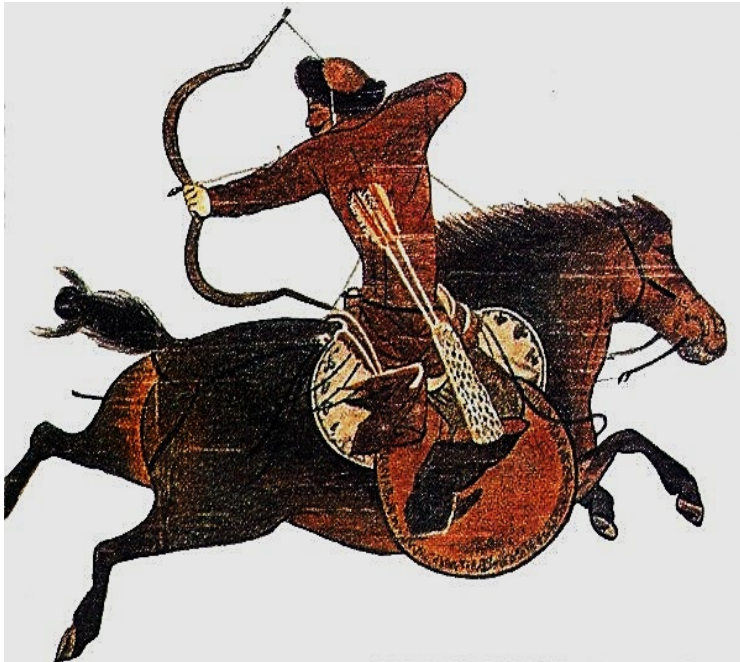
Did someone just call us 'not-so-smart' ?



The lion comes, to prey upon newly (or nearly) hatched ostriches ... then Mama Ostrich returns !



Have you given the **horse** [סוּס] strength [גְּבוּרָה]? Have you clothed his neck with thunder? Can you make him afraid as a **grasshopper / locust** [אַרְבֵּה]? The glory of his nostrils is terrible; he paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength; he goes on to meet the armed men; he mocks at fear, and is not affrighted ... he says among the trumpets, “Ha, ha!” — and he smells the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting. (Job 39:19-25)



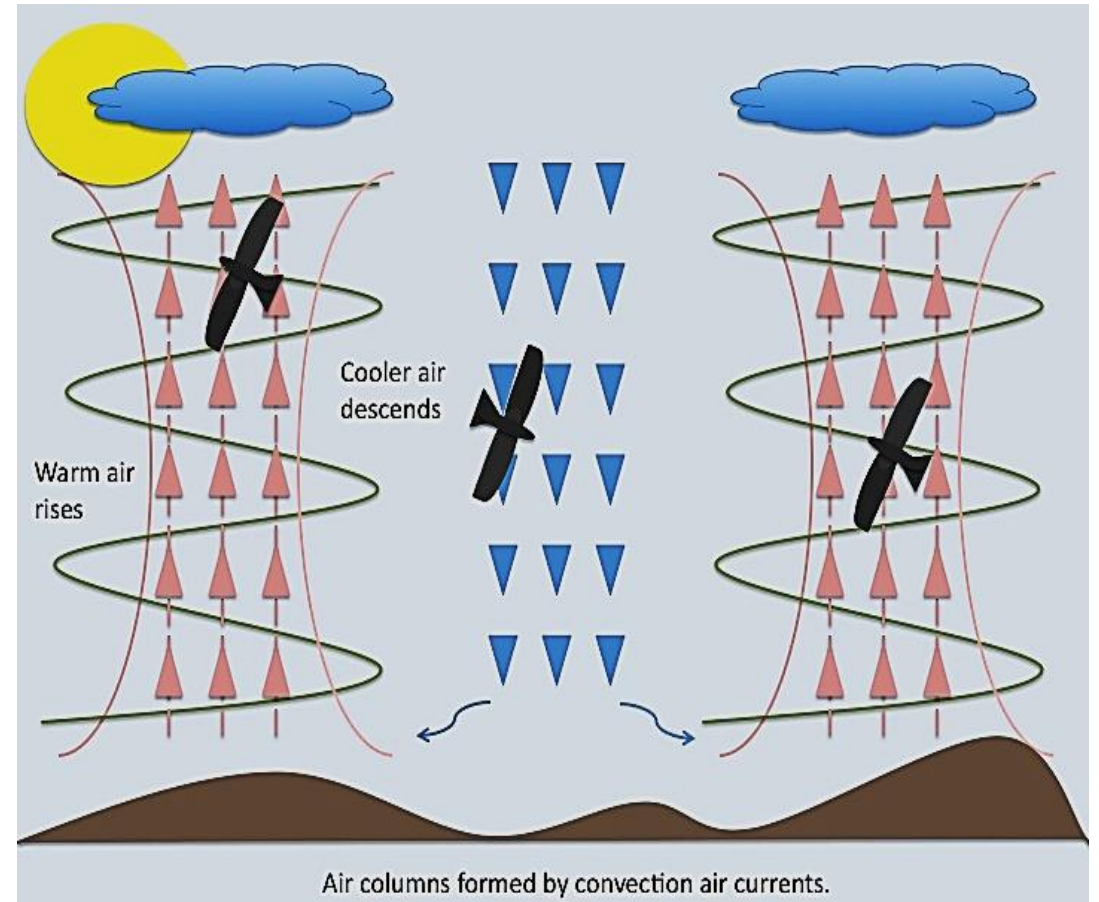
Does the hawk [גֵּיץ] fly [literally, “wing”, as a verb] by your wisdom, and stretch [יִפְרֹשׁ] its wings toward the south / Têmân [לְתֵימָן] ? (Job 39:26)



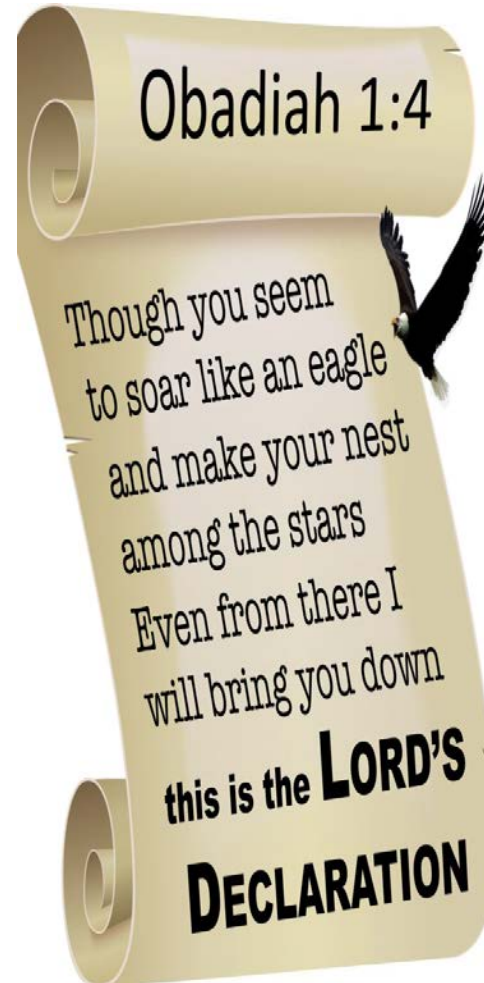
Job 39:26 refers to hawks using sail-like wings to piggy-back the weight-lifting power of **thermal air currents**.

"Does the hawk
take flight by your
wisdom and spread
its wings toward
the south?"

Job 39:26



Does the eagle [נֶשֶׁר] mount up [יַגְבִּיהַ] at your command, and make its nest on high? (Job 39:27)



Therefore, let those who suffer according to the will of God commit [παρατιθεσθωσαν] *the keeping of* their souls [ψυχας] unto Him, in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator [κτιστη].
(1st Peter 4:19)



Scripture identifies **Christ** (i.e., God the Son) as **the Creator Who directly created the entire cosmos and all its life-forms.** [John 1:3 & 1:10-14; Hebrews 1:1-12; Colossians 1:14-17]



Can you count all the stars? (Estimating is “cheating”.)

As **the host of heaven cannot be numbered** [סָפָרָה from *saphar* = “to record in itemized detail”], neither the sand of the sea measured [מָדַד from *madad* = “to measure”], so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me. (Jeremiah 33:22)

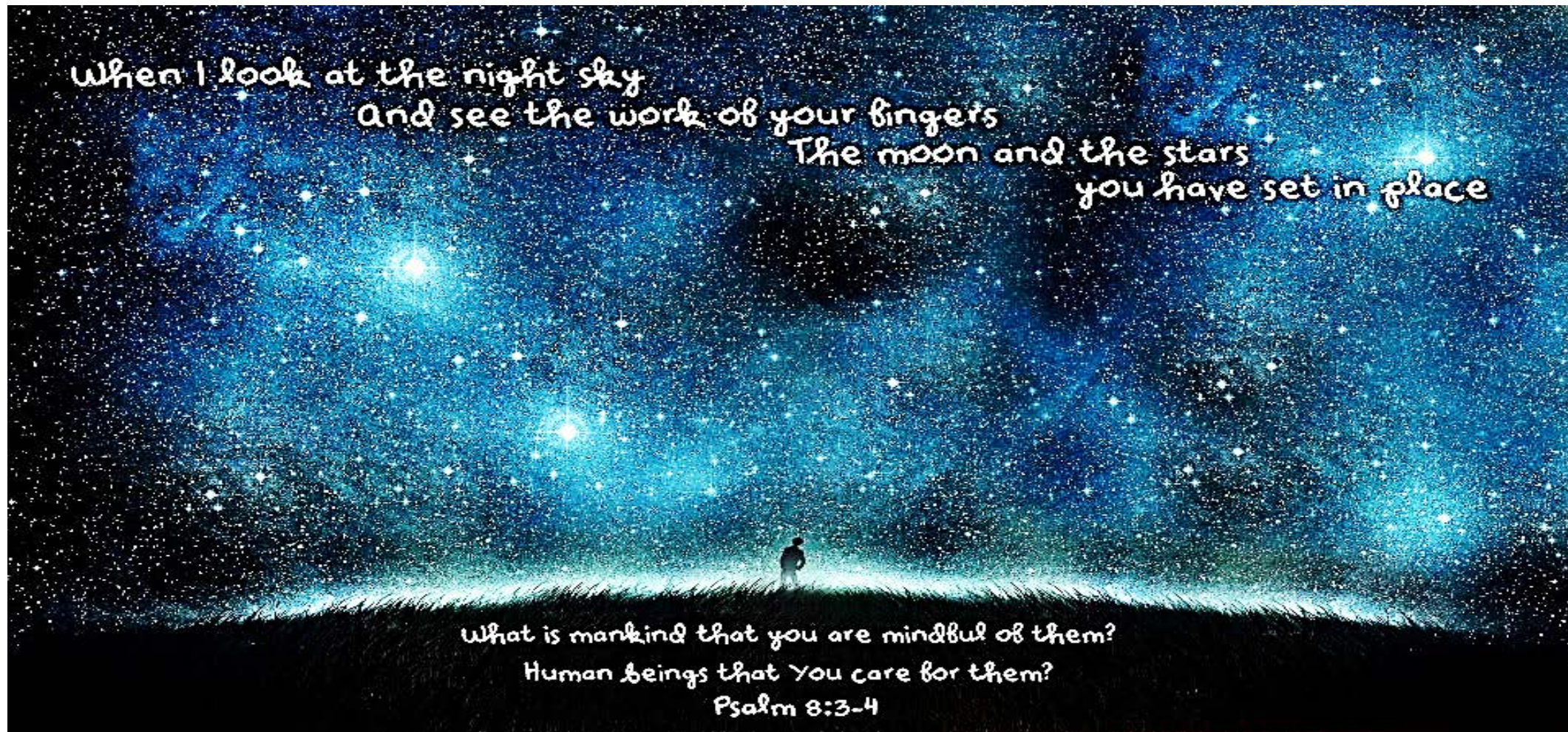
100-to-200 billion galaxies, each with ~ 100 billion stars = 10^{22} stars now known!

THAT’S 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 STARS!

To name them all, 1 / second, would take 300 trillion years!



He tells/measures [*mânâh qal* participle] the number [*mispar*, noun derived from verb *saphar*] of the stars; He calls [*qârâ' qal* imperfect] them all by their names. (Psalm 147:4)



PSALM 104: Creation Honors God



Psalm 104 gives a doxology of highlights from the heavens and Earth.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord my God, you are very great!

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent.

Psalm 104:1-2



At thy rebuke they [i.e., Flood waters] **fled**; at the voice of Thy thunder they hasted away. They [i.e., waters] go up by the mountains; they [i.e., waters] go down by the valleys, unto the place which Thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over, that they return not again to cover the earth. (Psalm 104: 7-9)



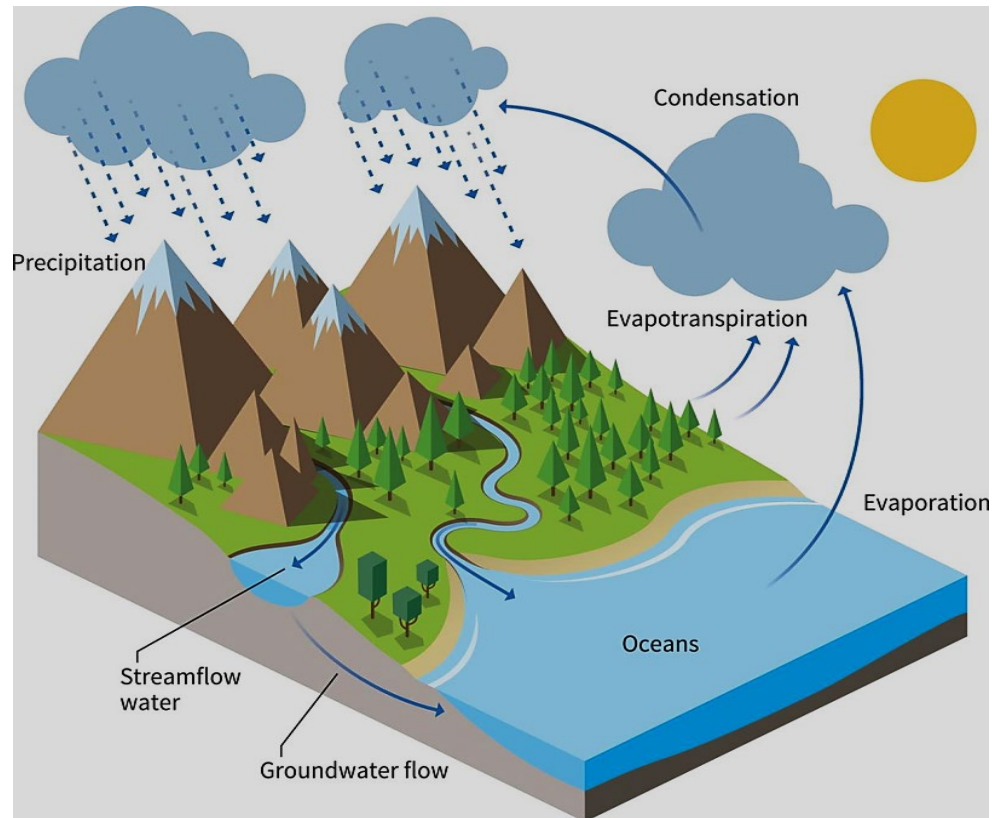
He sends the freshwater-springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. (v. 10)





*They give drink to every beast of
the field; The wild donkeys quench
their thirst. (Psalm 104:11)*

He waters [*hiphîl* participle of *shâqâh* = “cause to drink”] **the hills from His upper-chambers;** the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. (Psalm 104:13)



He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of mankind, that He may bring forth food out of the earth, and wine that makes glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart. (Psalm 104:14-15)



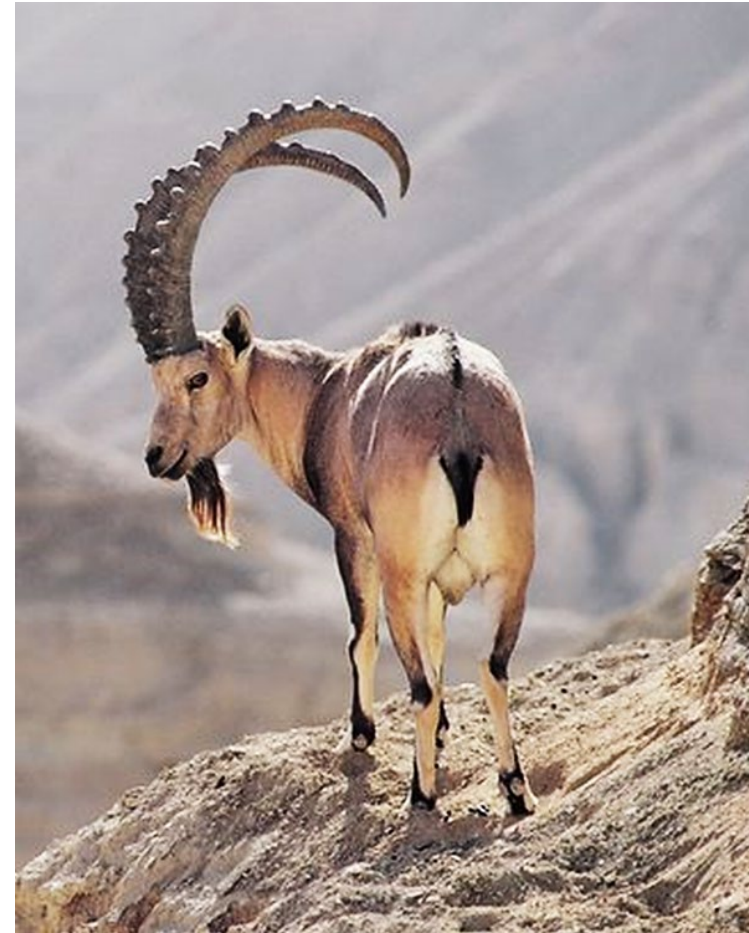
The trees of the LORD are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon, which He hath planted, where the **birds** make their **nests**; as for the **stork** (חסידה), the **firs** are its house. (Psalm 104:16-17)



Birdwatchers' blessing: "Let the storks be with you."



The high hills [*e.g., Judean “mountains”*] are a refuge for the wild goats [*Israel’s wild ibex, also noted in 1st Samuel 24:2*] (Psalm 104:18a)



Knowest thou the time when the **wild goats** of
the rock [יַעֲלֵי-סַלֵּעַ] bring forth? (**Job 39:1a**)



He appointed the **moon** for seasons; the **sun** knows its going down. (Psalm 104:19)



Thou makest **darkness**, and it is **night**, wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth... (Psalm 104:20)



The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their food from God. The sun arises; they gather themselves together, and lay themselves down in their dens. (Psalm 104:21-22)



Mankind goes forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. (Psalm 104:23)



Today's priority: "glorify God & enjoy Him forever"!



Thanks for listening!

