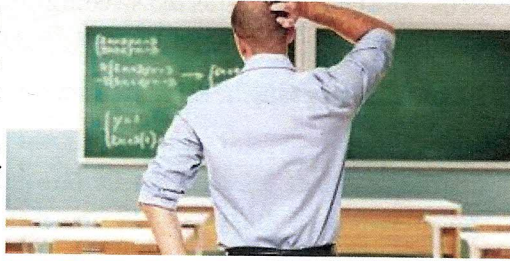




Why Did God Rebuke Job?

Why did God rebuke Job? (Job 38-41) Read God's interrogation and cross-examination of Job. It is so powerful and moving that Job put his hand to his mouth and spoke no more until God finished speaking. Then Job confessed, "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.



Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. . . I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:2-6)

But why did God rebuke Job? After all, who had suffered more than Job? Who had had to endure such suffering all at once as did Job? What was the measure of the immensity of his loss? I am uncertain. It cannot be numbered in dollars and cents. He lost everything: his servants to murder and natural disaster; his livestock to roaming bands of thieves and to lightning; all ten of his grown children were killed in a tornado. Devastation and ruin! Job's response? He worshiped God and said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). But, why did God rebuke Job? *Continued on page 3*

