

# Job 40:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.

## Analysis

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God challenges Job: 'Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.' This summarizes the divine interrogation - has Job presumed to instruct or correct God? The question demands self-examination.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern legal language ('contend,' 'reprove') frames this as courtroom verdict. God's question forces Job to evaluate his own presumption.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. When have you presumed to instruct or correct God?
2. What's the difference between honest questioning and presumptuous reproof?

## Interlinear Text

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הַ רֹבֵד	עִם	שֶׁדִּי י	יֵס וֹר	מוֹכֵ יָם
Shall he that contendeth	H5973	with the Almighty	instruct	him he that reproveth
H7378		H7706	H3250	H3198
אֵל וְיָ	יַעֲנֵהוּ:			
God	let him answer			
H433	H6030			

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Corinthians 2:16** (Parallel theme): For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

**Isaiah 40:14** (Parallel theme): With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

**Job 33:13** (Parallel theme): Why dost thou strive against him? for he giveth not account of any of his matters.

**Isaiah 50:8** (Parallel theme): He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me.

**Matthew 20:11** (Parallel theme): And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

**Ezekiel 18:2** (Parallel theme): What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?

**Job 9:3** (Parallel theme): If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand.

**Job 3:20** (Parallel theme): Wherefore is light given to him that is in misery, and life unto the bitter in soul;

**Job 27:2** (References God): As God liveth, who hath taken away my judgment; and the Almighty, who hath vexed my soul;

**Job 3:23** (References God): Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in?

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