

A photograph of a wind farm in a field at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow. Several wind turbines are visible, silhouetted against the sky. The foreground is a field of tall grass, illuminated by the warm light of the setting sun.

Faith and our climate crisis

2020 @ Bessels Green Baptist Church

The background of the slide is a warm, orange-hued sunset sky. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of several wind turbines are visible, with their blades extending across the frame. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

05/01 Beauty

12/01 Stewardship

19/01 Facts (Rev Dr Dave Gregory)

26/01 Soil

02/02 Animals

09/02 Poverty (Ben Niblett - Tear Fund)

16/02 Technology

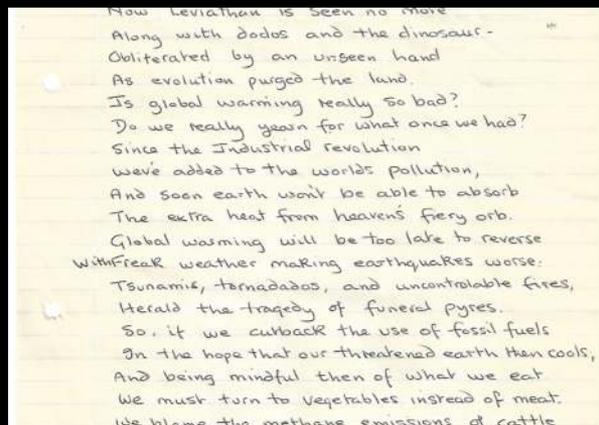
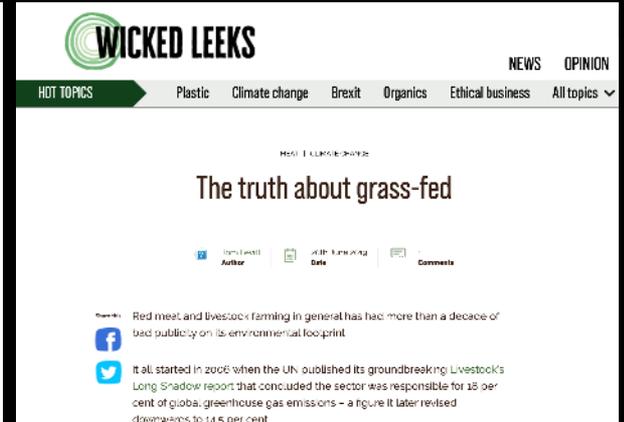
23/02 Jesus

01/03 Reality (Dave Nussbaum - The Elders)

08/03 Hope

15/03 Discussion

Encouraging Engagement!



“One of the most important sermon series I’ve ever been involved in.”
 Andy Potter



God Speaks to Job

Job 38:1-5; 38:31-39:4; 40:1-5

38 Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

² “Who is this that obscures my plans with words without knowledge?”

³ Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.

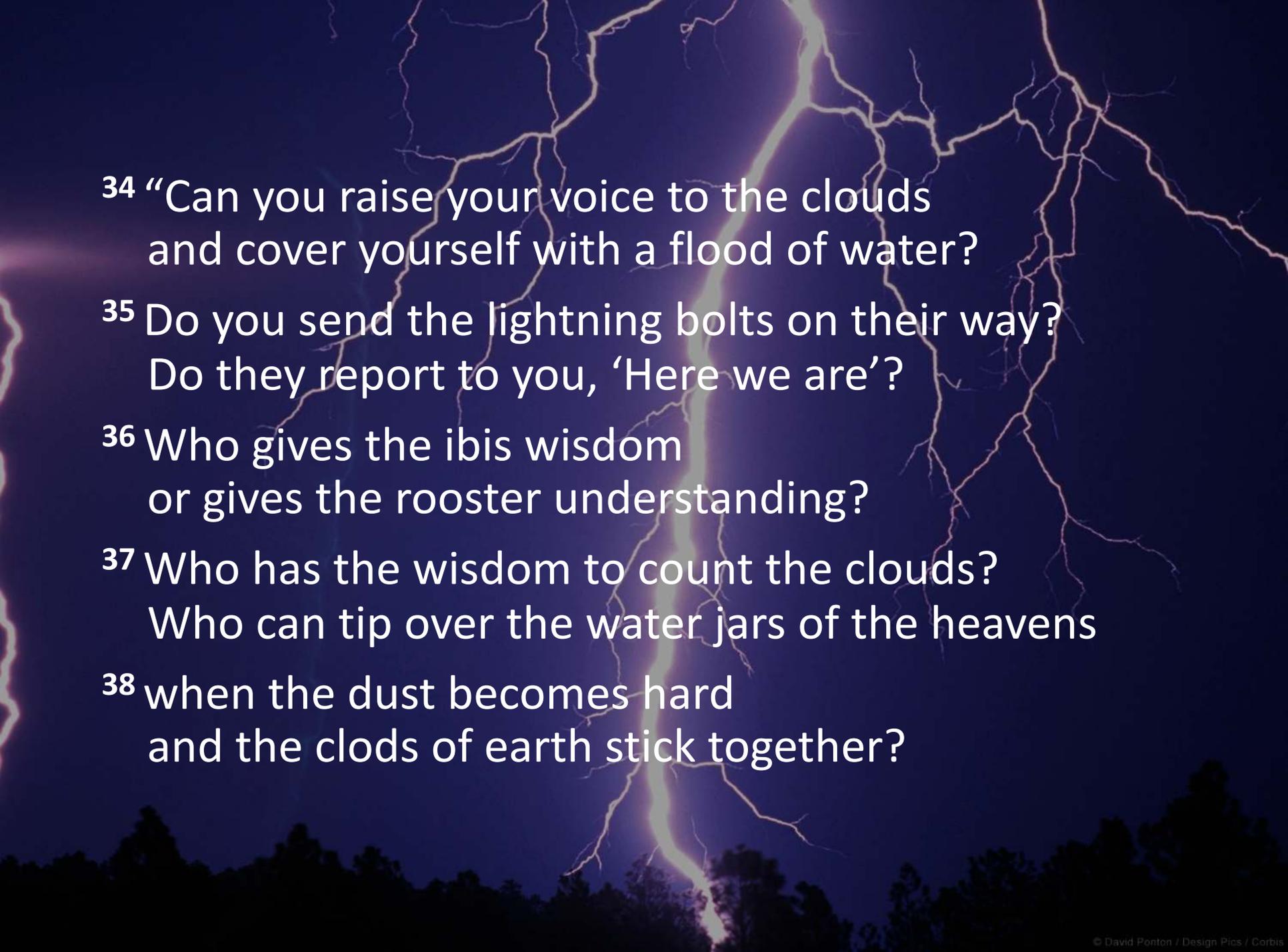
⁴ “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

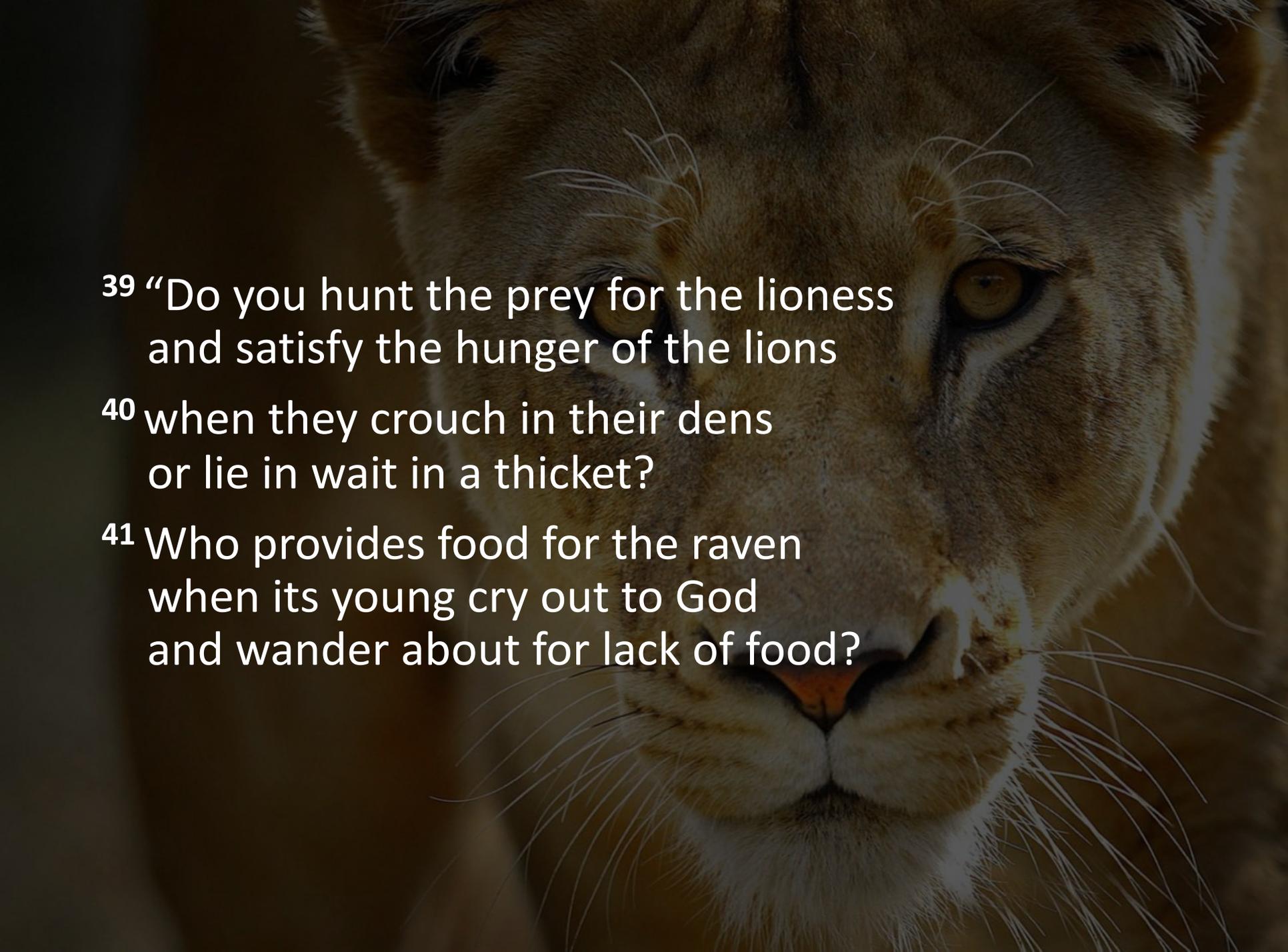
⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

31 “Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades?
Can you loosen Orion’s belt?

32 Can you bring forth the constellations in their
seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs?

33 Do you know the laws of the heavens?
Can you set up God’s dominion over the earth?

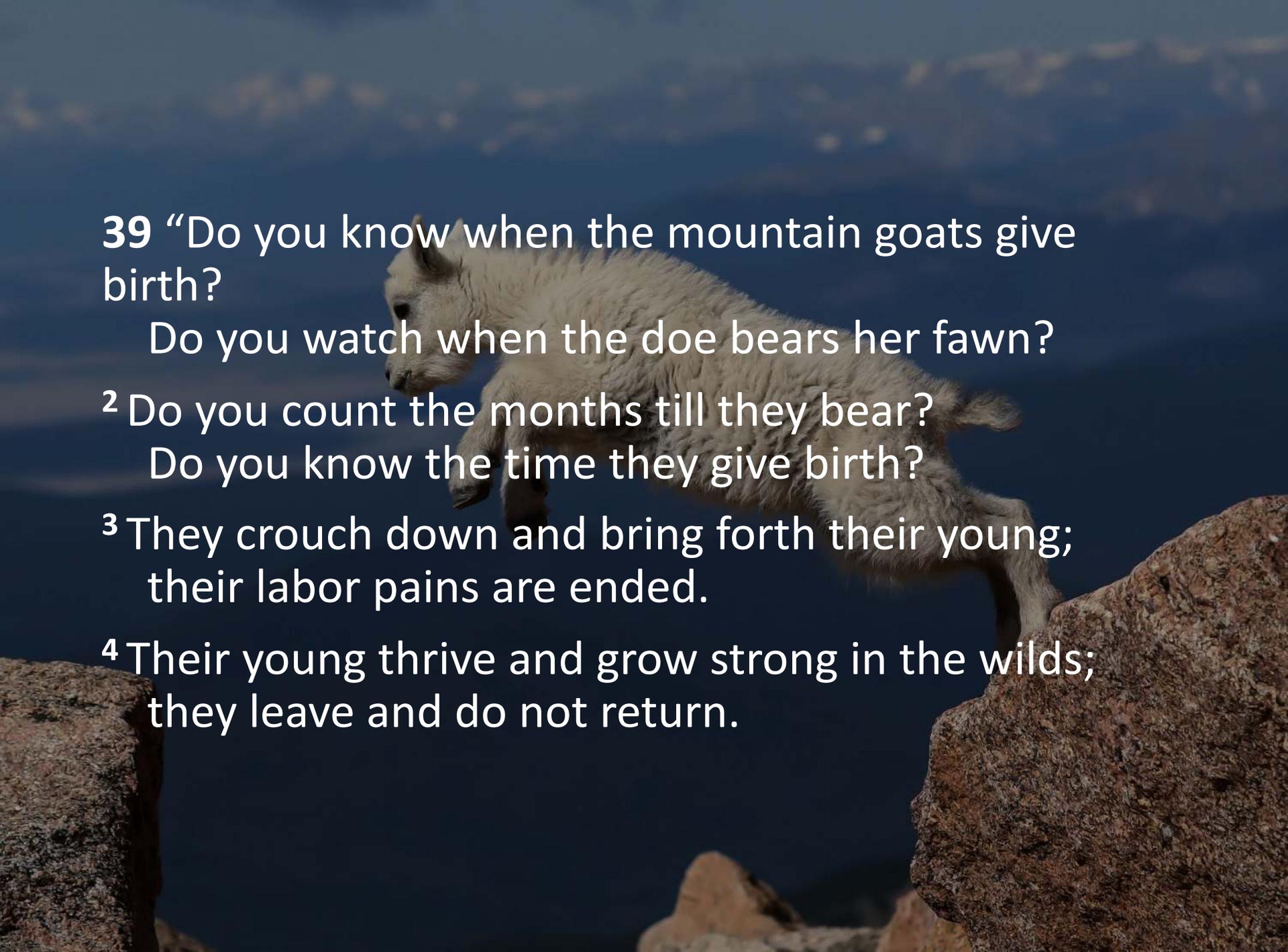
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- 34 “Can you raise your voice to the clouds
and cover yourself with a flood of water?
- 35 Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?
Do they report to you, ‘Here we are’?
- 36 Who gives the ibis wisdom
or gives the rooster understanding?
- 37 Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?
Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens
- 38 when the dust becomes hard
and the clods of earth stick together?



39 “Do you hunt the prey for the lioness
and satisfy the hunger of the lions

40 when they crouch in their dens
or lie in wait in a thicket?

41 Who provides food for the raven
when its young cry out to God
and wander about for lack of food?

A young mountain goat kid with light-colored, shaggy fur is walking across a dark, jagged rock formation. The background is a clear, deep blue sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

39 “Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

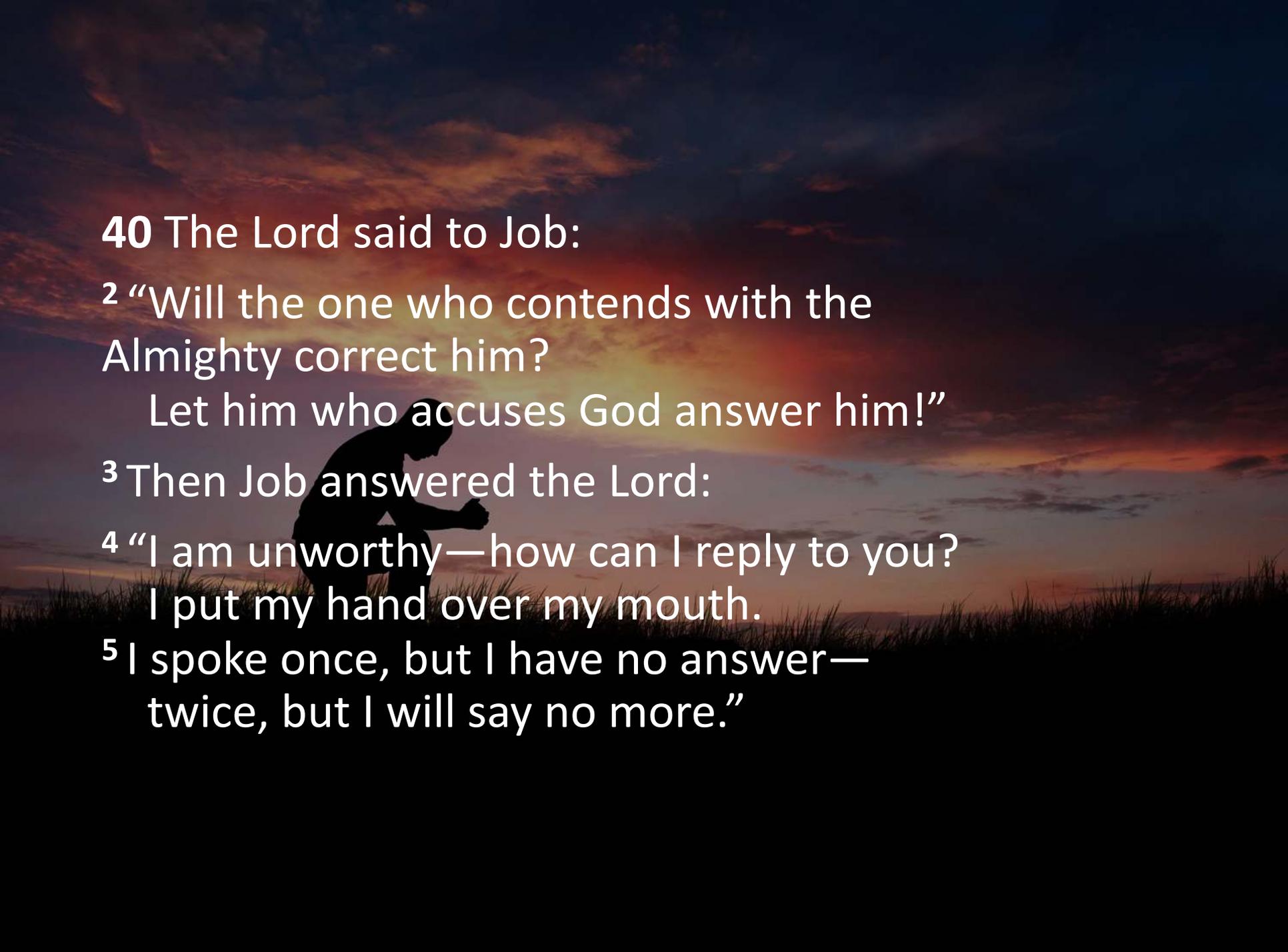
Do you watch when the doe bears her fawn?

² Do you count the months till they bear?

Do you know the time they give birth?

³ They crouch down and bring forth their young;
their labor pains are ended.

⁴ Their young thrive and grow strong in the wilds;
they leave and do not return.

A silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer against a sunset sky. The person is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the frame, with their hands clasped in front of them. The background is a dramatic sky with orange and yellow hues near the horizon, transitioning to a dark blue at the top. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

40 The Lord said to Job:

2 “Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him?
Let him who accuses God answer him!”

Let him who accuses God answer him!”

3 Then Job answered the Lord:

4 “I am unworthy—how can I reply to you?
I put my hand over my mouth.

5 I spoke once, but I have no answer—
twice, but I will say no more.”

Job 38-42



God's covenant with Noah

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him:

⁹ “I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you

¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth.

Genesis 8:8-10

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Genesis 8:8-10

“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy,”
God instructed the Children of Israel in the Ten
Commandments.

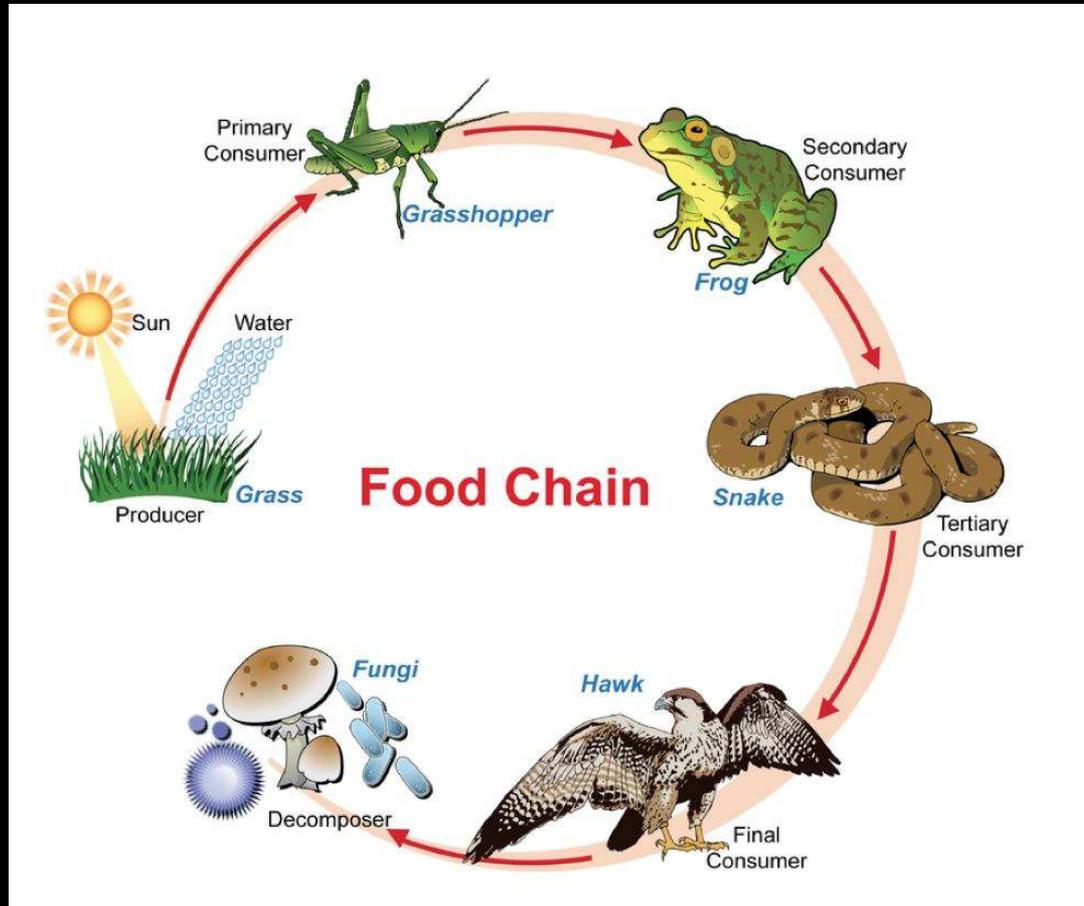
“Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but
the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.

On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor
your son or daughter, nor your male or female
servant, **nor your animals**, nor any foreigner residing
in your towns.

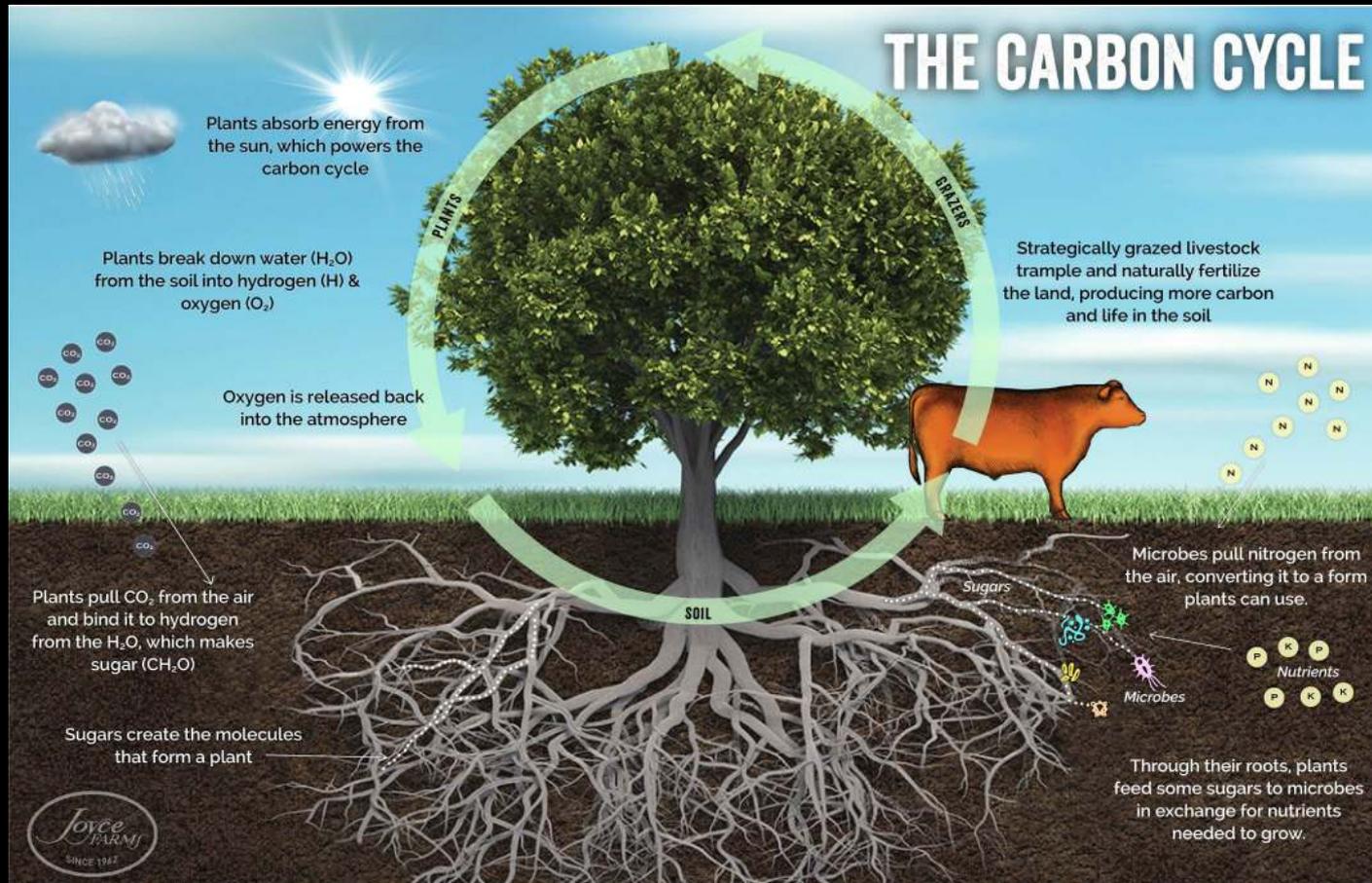
For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the
earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested
on the seventh day”

Exodus 20:8–11

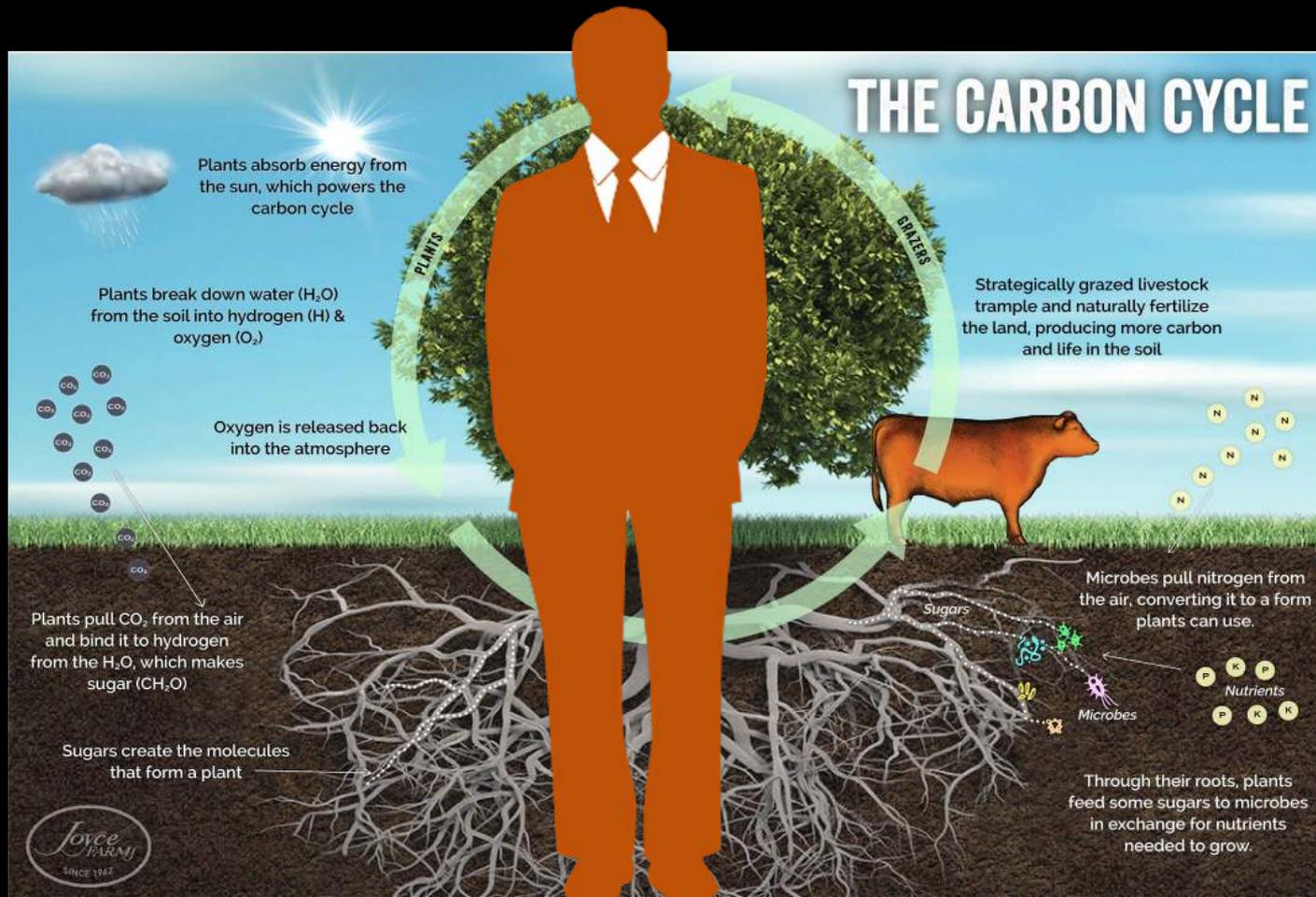
The Circle(s) of Life



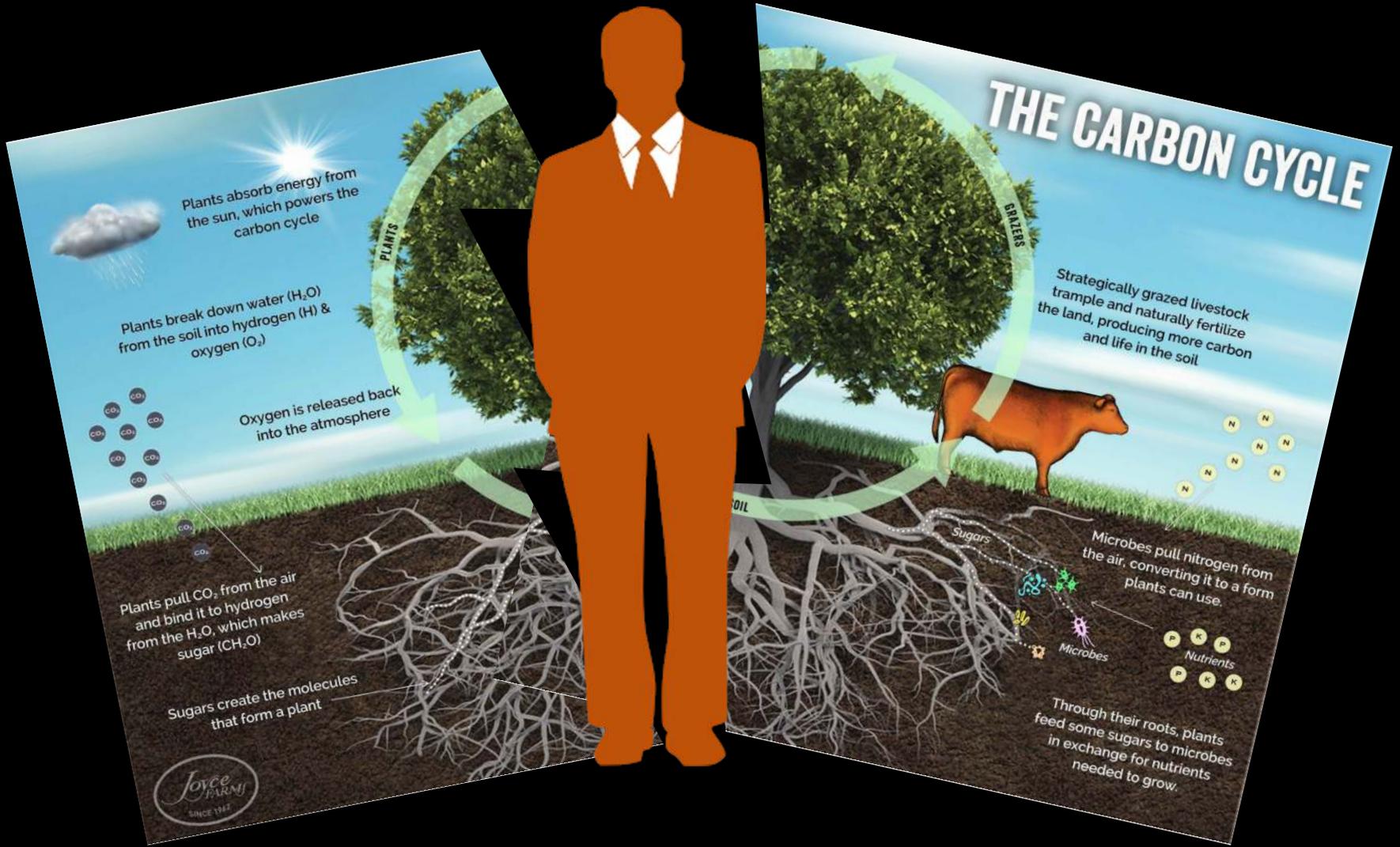
The Circle(s) of Life



We are a part of the creation



We are a part of the creation



We are set apart from creation

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Made in the image of God



Failing in our vocation

More than 30,000 species
are threatened with extinction

That is 27% of all assessed species.

AMPHIBIANS

41%



MAMMALS

25%



CONIFERS

34%



BIRDS

14%



SHARKS & RAYS

30%



REEF CORALS

33%



SELECTED CRUSTACEANS

27%



feedback

The International Union for Conservation of Nature, www.iucnredlist.org

This is a spiritual issue!



“Science alone will not be able to resolve the situation because it is a moral, **spiritual** and ethical one requiring major changes in our behaviour.”

*Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance.
former Director of the Royal
Botanical Gardens, Kew*

David Attenborough



How to respond – Forest500.org

FOREST 500

About Rankings Data Blog Reports Search

A PROJECT OF GLOBAL CANOPY

Forest 500 Annual Report 2018: the Countdown to 2020

Companies need to do more to implement commitments

[Find out more here](#)

Unpacking the deforestation-risk in your shopping basket

Everyday items in your shopping could pose a deforestation risk. Click on the individual products to find out more.

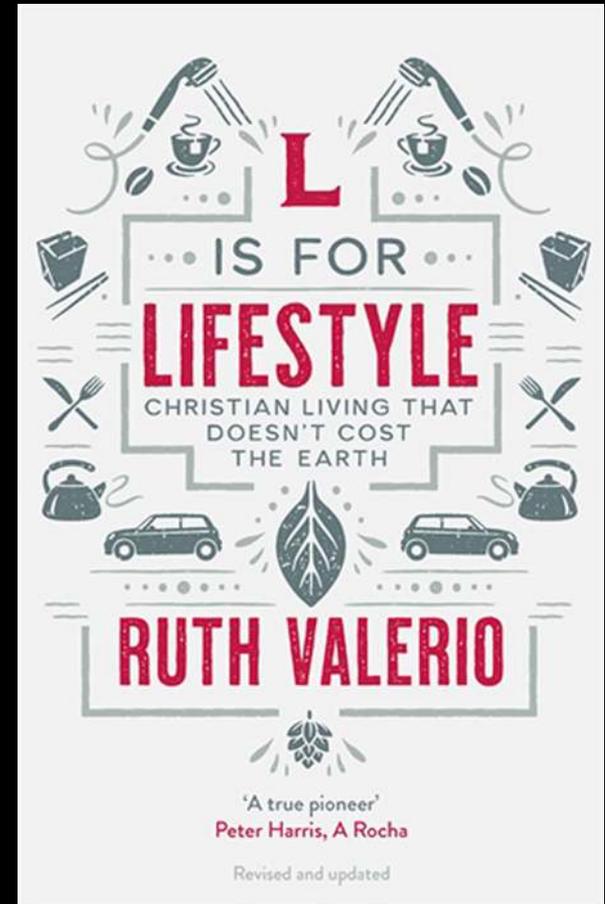
Key	
	Palm
	Soy
	Soy (hidden - used in animal feed)
	Cattle
	Deforestation commitment
	No deforestation commitment
	Forest 500 score

The image shows a screenshot of the Forest 500 website. At the top is a yellow navigation bar with the 'FOREST 500' logo and links for 'About', 'Rankings', 'Data', 'Blog', 'Reports', and 'Search'. Below the navigation bar is a large hero image of a lush green forest with a road cutting through it. Overlaid on the right side of the hero image is a white box containing the title 'Forest 500 Annual Report 2018: the Countdown to 2020', a sub-headline 'Companies need to do more to implement commitments', and a link 'Find out more here'. Below the hero image is a dark grey banner with the text 'Unpacking the deforestation-risk in your shopping basket'. At the bottom of the page is a teal section with a white box on the left containing the text 'Everyday items in your shopping could pose a deforestation risk. Click on the individual products to find out more.' To the right of this text is a 'Key' section with a table of icons and their meanings: Palm, Soy, Soy (hidden - used in animal feed), Cattle, Deforestation commitment (checkmark), No deforestation commitment (cross), and Forest 500 score (five circles). To the right of the key are two illustrations: a blue bag of soybeans and a white package of cattle feed.

How to respond

1. Take steps to make your garden a welcoming place for wildlife.
2. Try to avoid products with palm oil, or only buy products made with sustainable palm oil.
3. Find an organisation working to protect habitats that you can support, WWF, A Rocha.

Ruth Valerio, p.64



Join the discussion

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