

# “BRACE YOURSELF LIKE A MAN...”

## LIGHT & DARKNESS

**JOB 38:12-21 NLT** “Have you ever commanded the morning to appear and caused the dawn to rise in the east? <sup>(13)</sup>Have you made daylight spread to the ends of the earth, to bring an end to the night’s wickedness? <sup>(14)</sup>As the light approaches, the earth takes shape like clay pressed beneath a seal; it is robed in brilliant colors. <sup>(15)</sup>The light disturbs the wicked and stops the arm that is raised in violence. <sup>(16)</sup>Have you explored the springs from which the seas come? Have you explored their depths? <sup>(17)</sup>Do you know where the gates of death are located? Have you seen the gates of utter gloom? <sup>(18)</sup>Do you realize the extent of the earth? Tell me about it if you know! <sup>(19)</sup>Where does light come from, and where does darkness go? <sup>(20)</sup>Can you take each to its home? Do you know how to get there? <sup>(21)</sup>But of course you know all this! For you were born before it was all created, and you are so very experienced!”

## GOD IS IN CONTROL

**JOSHUA 10:12-13 NLT** On the day the LORD gave the Israelites victory over the Amorites, Joshua prayed to the LORD in front of all the people of Israel. He said, “Let the sun stand still over Gibeon, and the moon over the valley of Aijalon.” <sup>(13)</sup>So the sun stood still and the moon stayed in place until the nation of Israel had defeated its enemies. Is this event not recorded in The Book of Jashar? The sun stayed in the middle of the sky, and it did not set as on a normal day.

**ISAIAH 14:24, 26-27 NLT** The LORD of Heaven’s Armies has sworn this oath: “It will all happen as I have planned. <sup>(26)</sup>It will be as I have decided. I have a plan for the whole earth, a hand of judgment upon all the nations. <sup>(27)</sup>The LORD of Heaven’s Armies has spoken—who can change his plans? When his hand is raised, who can stop him?”

## GOD KNOWS

**PSALMS 139:1-4 NLT** O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. <sup>(2)</sup>You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I’m far away. <sup>(3)</sup>You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. <sup>(4)</sup>You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD.

**PSALMS 44:21 NLT** God would surely have known it, for he knows the secrets of every heart.

**HEBREWS 4:13 NLT** Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

## GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. How can you explain God’s sovereignty?
2. How can you accept the fact that you are NOT in control?
3. What are the results of being personally accountable to God?

## THIS WEEK’S CHALLENGE:

1. Memorize ISAIAH 14:24 “The LORD of Heaven’s Armies has sworn this oath: ‘It will all happen as I have planned.’”
2. Pray for God’s help in relinquishing control.

