

# **Bible And Science 002**

**Capsule Series For Busy People**

# **OSTRICH** **In The Book Of** **Job**

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## **Ostrich** **In The Book Of Job**

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**Dr. Johnson C. Philip**

**Dr. Saneesh Cherian**

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## Capsule Series For Busy People?

Both of us have been getting requests from far and wide for materials on Bible and Science. It seems that there is a renewed attack against the scientific reliability of the Bible.

Once we decided to write such a book, a good number of our friends asked us for books which can be read even on mobile phones. Most of our young readers are busy professionals and they wish to read these books quickly and easily, and this series is our answer.

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*Dr. Johnson C. Philip*

*Dr. Saneesh Cherian*

## The Ostrich In The Book of Job



Ostrich is a flightless bird found only in certain parts of the world, but is a bird about which everyone in every culture knows. It is widely believed that the Ostrich bury their head in sand when cyclones or thunderstorms approach. People everywhere believe that this is the Ostrich way to protect itself from danger.



This story about Ostriches is so common that “burying one’s head in sand” is a common expression in numerous languages to indicate people who run away from crisis rather than face it. Hundreds of stories, thousands of jokes, and thousands of allusions about the Ostrich burying its head in the sand are found worldwide in all cultures.

The Bible contains a long statement about the Ostrich in the book of Job. It says:

"Gavest thou the goodly wings to the peacocks? Or wings and feathers unto the Ostrich? Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in and forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them. She is hardened against her young ones, as though they were not hers: her labour is in vain without fear;

Because God hath deprived of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding. What time she lifteth up herself on high, she scorneth the horse and his rider". (Job 39:13-18).

The above passage gives a detailed description of the Ostrich life history, nesting habits, care of the young, intelligence and speed. Each detail has been challenged by one or more ornithologists. However science has confirmed all of them to be true.

In reality, the Ostrich makes a hole in sand, lays her eggs and covers them (Vs. 4). Many a time she tramples them, and jackals, wild cats and other animals attack them (Vs. 16). It has been found that on occasions Ostriches can be cruel to their chicks (Vs. 16). At first, Ostrich seems to be wise, but over-all it is full of foolish habits (Vs. 17) and therefore in Arabic fables it is portrayed as a foolish bird. In Africa the

Ostriches often eat prickly pear foolishly and die; also it often breaks its legs by foolish running; their violent reaction on seeing dogs frequently leads to their death; cock-fights frequently prove fatal and it has been observed (when domesticated) to foolishly swallow lighted cigarettes and cigars.



Ostriches can weigh up to 150 Kg or more and can draw carts, as was common a hundred years ago

The speed of the Ostrich is well-known, and they can definitely defeat horses (Vs. 18).

Having said all the above, there is an amazing thing in this passage. Even in the twenty-first century people believe the fable that Ostriches bury their head in sand when faced with a storm. However, Job does not mention it.

How is it that Job says so much about the Ostrich, all scientifically correct, but does not claim that they bury their head in sand in the face of approaching storms? That is because the Ostrich does not do anything like that.

### The Head In Sand Myth And The Bible

Whenever and wherever people talk about the Ostrich, they talk about the head-in-sand myth as though it is a fact. Many other myths are also connected with this bird. However, Job who lived in 1700 BC does not include a single myth in his detailed description of the Ostrich. That is because the Word of God is free of scientific errors.

### Summary

For thousands of years people had been trying to discredit the Bible. Such efforts have become very intense in the present century. However,



the Bible has outlived all these attacks because it is the Inspired Word of God.

When the Bible makes a statement related to Science, it is always accurate. No established fact of science has ever contradicted the Bible, and no statement of the Bible has ever gone against any established fact of science.

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## About The Authors

Dr. Johnson C. Philip is an expert in Quantum-nuclear Physics and has done research about the inner structure of Protons and Neutrons (Hadrons). He has authored hundreds of books and he hopes to join hands with Dr. Saneesh Cherian to produce more than 100 volumes of these compact Bible/Science books to bless your spiritual life.



Dr. Saneesh Cherian is an expert in Communication and Sociology. Having completed two doctorates in theology and a masters in Sociology from a prestigious University, he has been working towards his next doctorate.



Together the two writers have authored several major books in Apologetics and Theology, Theology Dictionary and Bible Encyclopedias.

Hundreds of eBooks and pdf magazines produced by them are available for free download. You can contact them via: [Webmaster@TrinityTheology.org](mailto:Webmaster@TrinityTheology.org)

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