

## ヨブ記38章36節の「鶻」？

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ABSTRACT Yoshiyuki MUCHIKI, “Ibis in Job 38:36?” There has been considerable diversity in the translation of the Hebrew word **אִיבִּי** in Job 38:36. The range of issue is reflected by the variety of modern translations: “the clouds” (RSV 1952), “the innermost being” (NASB 1960), “the ibis” (JB 1966), “the hidden parts” (JPS 1988). The fact that this word is only attested twice in the Old Testament makes it difficult for us to determine its exact meaning.

Many commentaries have long discussed the possibility that the word is related to the Egyptian word *dhw.ty* “ibis.” This interpretation seems to fit the immediate context, because the ibis represents the Egyptian wisdom god Ibis. So the verse would be translated as “Who put wisdom in the (wisdom God) Ibis?” Yet we have to keep in mind that **אִיבִּי** cannot represent *dhw.ty* because Egyptian *d* of *dhw.ty* changed into *d*, and even to *t* at a very early stage, as shown by many Egyptian spellings and the Neobabylonian *Tihut* (in *Tihut’arta’is* = Egyptian *dhwty-iir-di-sw*) and the Coptic ⲪⲞⲮⲧ, ⲪⲱⲮⲧ, which is represented in Aramaic as **ܐܝܒܝܝ**. Therefore we must cross this possibility off the list of possible interpretations.

Considering the context and the usages and meanings of the parallel words **שֶׁבֶרַי** and **סֵתֶם**, I would suggested the following translation:

“Who has put wisdom in the hidden place?

Who has given understanding to the secret part? ”