

# **ELIHU: A NEW VOICE**

## **Job 32-33**

**Elihu's new voice provides a new perspective  
on Job's response to suffering.**

### **I. THE SPEAKER - Chapter 32**

#### **A. DISTURBED BY JOB'S SITUATION (1-3)**

1. His Anger
  - a. Against Job for concluding that he was right and God was wrong regarding his situation (2)
  - b. About the three friends ineffectiveness and condemning Job without a cause (3)
2. His Affect
  - Elihu will be used to refocus Job's heart and defend God's honor with his four speeches in the next five chapters.

#### **B. DEFERRED TO THE OLDER MEN (4-5)**

- But they were not answering which irritated Elihu

#### **C. DEPENDENT UPON GOD (6-9)**

- True understanding comes from God and not age

#### **D. DETERMINED TO GET INVOLVED (10-22)**

1. His Plea (10)
2. His Problem (11-13)
  - a. No one refuted or answered Job (11-12)
  - b. The friends were pompous and dismissive (13)
3. His Position (14)
  - Neutral and new
4. His Passion (15-20)
  - The friends are stumped (15-16) but he is stoked! (17-20)
5. His Plan (21-22)
  - Be plainspoken without partiality or favoritism

#### **E. SUMMARY**

1. God needs concerned, courteous, competent, and committed people to get involved in the lives of others.
2. Will you be such a person?

Over please >

## II. **THE SPEECH** - Chapter 33

### A. QUALIFICATIONS (1-7)

1. Sincerity (3)
2. Humanity (4)
3. Humility (5-7)

### B. OBSERVATIONS (8-11)

1. I've Heard (8)
2. You've Said (9-11)
  - a. I've been faithful (9)
  - b. God's been unfair (10-11)

### C. ACCUSATION (12-13)

1. Response (12a)
  - a. You are not right about this
  - b. Elihu was willing to confront incorrect conclusions drawn by Job
  - c. Job's friends contended that Job is suffering because of his sin; whereas Elihu contends that Job is sinning because of his suffering.
2. Reasons (12b-13)
  - a. God is greater than man (12b)
    - Man is inferior and unqualified to analyze God
  - b. God is answerable to no man (13)
    - The complaint is unmerited, irreverent and arrogant

### D. CONSIDERATION (14-30)

1. The Proposition (14)
  - Though God does not answer us, He does speak to us
2. The Particulars (15-28)
  - a. God speaks through dreams (15-18)
  - b. God speaks through suffering (19-22)
  - c. God speaks through messengers (23-28)
3. The Priority (29-30)
  - Merciful rescue from premature death
4. The Problem (14b)
  - No one notices ... we don't pay attention

### E. INVITATION (31-33)

1. Listen, for you must (31)
2. Speak, if you must (32)
3. Listen and learn wisdom (33)

## **CONCLUSION:**

Job's weariness led him to despair over an unfair God, but Elihu's wisdom was leading him to discover a God that communicates and demonstrates mercy even if one is suffering. This is the message of hope that Job and we need to hear.