

The Book of Job
Lesson 10 The Wrath of Elihu

Job 13:28, 28:28, 32:1–5, 34:10–15, Ezek. 28:12–17, Job 1–2:10.

Isaiah 55:9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts” ”.

Miserable Comforters

Job 13:28 (NKJV) “Man decays like a rotten thing, like a garment that is moth-eaten.

Job 15:14–16 (NKJV) “What is man, that he could be pure? And he who is born of a woman, that he could be righteous? ¹⁵ If God puts no trust in His saints, And the heavens are not pure in His sight, ¹⁶ How much less man, who is abominable and filthy, who drinks iniquity like water!

Job 19:25–27 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Every Bible writer could read Job. Many quote from it.

***Job 28:28** (NKJV) And to man He said, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, And to depart from evil is understanding.’ ”

Psalms 111:10 (NKJV) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments.

Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The Entrance of Elihu

From Job 26 to 31, Job, gives his final speech to the three men.

As chapter 31 comes to a close, Job persists he had done nothing to justify what was happening to him now. Then the final verse of the chapter reads: “The words of Job are ended” (Job 31:40).

Elihu Contradicts Job’s Friends

Job 32:1–4 (NKJV) So these three men ceased answering Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. ² Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, was aroused against Job; his wrath was aroused because he justified himself rather than God. ³ Also against his three friends his wrath was aroused, because they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job. ⁴ Now because they were years older than he, Elihu had waited to speak to Job.

Elihu’s Defense of God

For five chapters Elihu speaks.

Elihu = He is my God. He is God, Himself.

Genesis 22:20–21 (NKJV) ²⁰ Now it came to pass after these things that it was told Abraham, saying, “Indeed Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: ²¹ Huz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram,

A correspondence was maintained between the family of Abraham in Canaan and the relatives of Nahor in the old ancestral home at Haran.

Job 34:10–15 (NKJV) “Therefore listen to me, you men of understanding: Far be it from God to do wickedness, And from the Almighty to commit iniquity. ¹¹ For He repays man according to his work, And makes man to find a reward according to his way. ¹² Surely God will never do wickedly, Nor will the Almighty pervert justice. ¹³ Who gave Him charge over the earth? Or who appointed Him over the whole world? ¹⁴ If He should set His heart on it, If He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath, ¹⁵ All flesh would perish together, And man would return to dust.

Genesis 3:19 (NKJV) In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.”

Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NKJV) Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.

Ecclesiastes 3:19–20 (NKJV) For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals, for all is vanity. ²⁰ All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust.

Job 34:20–21 (NKJV) ²⁰ In a moment they die, in the middle of the night; The people are shaken and pass away; The mighty are taken away without a hand. ²¹ “For His eyes are on the ways of man, And He sees all his steps.

***Hebrews 4:13** (NKJV) And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Job 36:5–7 (NKJV) “Behold, God is mighty, but despises no one; He is mighty in strength of understanding. ⁶ He does not preserve the life of the wicked, But gives justice to the oppressed. ⁷ He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous; But they are on the throne with kings, For He has seated them forever, And they are exalted.

The Irrationality of Evil

Job 9:10 *Which doeth great things past finding out; Yea, and wonders without number.*

Job 40:2 (NKJV) *“Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.”*

***Romans 9:20** (NKJV) *But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, “Why have you made me like this?”*

Isaiah 55:9 (NKJV) *“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

Romans 11:33–34 (NKJV) *Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! “For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?”*

The Challenge of Faith

Job 36:1–4 (NKJV) *Elihu also proceeded and said: “Bear with me a little, and I will show you That there are yet words to speak on God’s behalf. I will fetch my knowledge from afar; I will ascribe righteousness to my Maker. For truly my words are not false; One who is perfect in knowledge is with you.*

***1 Kings 3:7** (NKJV) *Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.*

1 Corinthians 13:9–10 (NKJV) *For we know in part and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.*

1 Corinthians 13:12 (NKJV) *For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.*

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV) *For we walk by faith, not by sight.*

Job 36:6 *He preserveth not the life of the wicked: but giveth right to the poor.*