

Job 32-34 –8 June 2023

“Not Necessarily”

Introduction

*Book of Job opens w/ heavenly scene in which Satan asks permission to bring calamity into Job’s life

*Chap 3-28 – saw Eliphaz, Bildad & Zophar give speeches (3, 3, 2) & Job responding to each

*Chap 29-31, Job took 3 chapters recounting the great scheme of his life...in a very selfish, godless way

*In Chap 32-37, the young man Elihu, who has been listening steps up to respond to Job

*Commentators variously classify Elihu everywhere from wicked himself to a preincarnate appearance of Christ Himself! -He’s just like the rest...opinionated!

*Elihu, like many of us tends to overstate or just simplify thing without any nuance at all

We’ll see 3 things that can easily be overstated

1st thing: Wisdom isn't necessarily found in the old men (Job 32)

Read Chap 32:1-5

1. Elihu seems to be descended from Abraham's nephew Buz
 - a. Some try to say this is fiction & poetry, but the man is given here a genealogy
 - b. Both his name & his father's name are godly, showing a godly heritage
 - c. He had enough respect to wait for the elders to be done b4 speaking, but will be very bold
2. He's anger for two reasons
 - a. Job declares his own self-righteousness
 - b. The 3 friends can't find fault in Job yet have condemned him – they're ineffective

Read Vs 6-9

1. Wisdom isn't always found in the older men
2. It's the Spirit of God within people that's needed
3. These are some of the best things he has to say, then opens his mouth with presumption for the rest

Read Vs 10-14

1. I was patient while you tried unconvincingly to show Job his sin

Read Vs 15-22

1. He's just bursting to speak, but why?
 - a. Jeremiah had same zeal as Elihu in vs 19 (Read Jer 20:9)
 - b. But Jeremiah was burning to give God's Word, Elihu was burning to (vs 20) get his opinion off his chest

2nd thing: Salvation isn't necessarily all the answers (Job 33)

Read Chap 33:1-7

1. Elihu says, 'I speak for God'
 - a. If you're ever going to say this, you'd better be quoting directly from the Scripture
 - i. All NT expressions of "saith the Lord" are quotes from the OT except in Rev which is further prophecy
 - b. No OT prophet had to verbally affirm he's from the Lord; his prophecy & works proved it
 - c. OT false prophet punishment was death

Read Vs 8-12a

1. Elihu repeats Job's position as saying, he's innocent and blames God for his calamity
 - a. Job never claimed innocence, just no specific sin (see Job 7:21, 9:2, 9:28, 19:20)
 - b. There's quite a difference between blaming God and God allowing such a thing

Read Vs 12b-18

1. God can speak to us thru dreams to be instructive to us – to turn from sin
2. He's saying to Job, maybe God has spoken to you already in a dream – do you have something to repent of now

Read Vs 19-22

1. Now he says, God can speak to us thru suffering to be corrective to us – to turn from sin

Read Vs 23-28

1. These verses are just a wonderful picture of the salvation of God – Go thru each verse
2. All generations from all over world understand what we need from God in their conscience
 - a. Deep, dark jungle of Africa example

Read Vs 29-33

1. God wants to do this for you Job
 - a. Either accept this, repent & be justified or be quiet and I'll continue
 - b. Ever had someone try to get you saved when you already are? Very offensive!

3rd thing: Judgement isn't necessarily the destination (Job 34)

Read Chap 32:1-9

1. Try this on (your ear) for size, 'surely Job has turned his back on God'
2. He's challenging them to argue against him

Read Vs 10-15

1. God is always just & rights wickedness
 - a. True – but Job has no wickedness to fix

Read Vs 16-20

1. We cannot question God ability to maintain righteous order
2. God will preserve His righteous ways

Read Vs 21-30

1. God sees all and will judge all perfectly, whether a nation or an individual

Read Vs 31-33

1. Elihu is basically trying to lead Job in a ‘sinner’s prayer’ in repentance
 - a. Here’s the words you should say to God Job

Read Vs 34-37

1. For not accepting Elihu’s great counsel, Elihu adds that Job is now living in known rebellion

Conclusion

So, let's be careful we're not making these universal statements or oversimplifications

- 1. You don't need an older person to find wisdom, you need a godly person that's spent their life with Jesus!**
- 2. Although salvation is the **ONLY** answer an unbeliever needs; there are many situations that a believer will face that need light shown on that path by the Word and the Spirit**
- 3. Although judgement is coming for unbelievers; we need not live under such a cloud of fear – we've had our judgement removed at the cross of Jesus Christ!**