

An Overview of Job

Part 15

- I. Introduction
 - a. In our previous lesson, we dealt with the 2nd of our 3 part study of the message of the young man, Elihu
 - i. Today's lesson will complete his speech which seemingly introduces God's message to Job and the three friends

- II. Commentary
 - a. **Job, Chapter 36**
 - i. Elihu speaks further about God and His attributes
 - ii. Elihu touches the subject of the goodness of God
 1. His desire is to rightfully "defend" God
 - a. That is, he wishes to reason this entire episode from a Biblical standpoint
 - iii. God is righteous (vs. 3)
 1. The friends tried to reason this in their minds by saying a righteous God would bless the good and curse the bad
 - a. That may be logical but it is not correct
 2. Job had questioned this as he seemed to have come to the opposite conclusion as the friends
 - a. That is, that God blessed with the wicked while the righteous suffer
 - iv. Elihu speaks of God's goodness even in dealing with the affairs of men
 1. God's understanding is vast (vs. 5)
 2. God doesn't preserve the life of the wicked
 - a. He is certainly often longsuffering with the wicked
 - i. However, He doesn't preserve them FOR their wickedness
 3. God gives justice to the oppressed (vs. 5)
 - a. However, this may ultimately be in the next life (Revelation 6:9-11)

4. Elihu continues to urge Job to look to God for deliverance
 - a. Job had come to the conclusion that God was far from him
 - i. This was not at all true
5. Elihu urges Job not to turn to iniquity, feeling God is far away from him (**vs. 21**)
6. God is unquestionable (**vs. 22**)
- v. Elihu speaks of God's majesty
 1. This alone makes Him worthy of worship
 2. Humans cannot completely know God (**vs. 26**)
 - a. We certainly can have a relationship with him
 - i. However, completely understanding an infinite being is impossible for a finite being
 3. He declares that God is the one in charge of natural processes and the weather

b. Job, Chapter 37

- i. The fact that God controls the weather ought to make us adore Him (**vss. 1-13**)
 1. We don't know why weather patterns happen (**vs. 13**)
 - a. It can be for correction, for the vegetation of the Earth, or even for mercy
 - i. We simply cannot make any dogmatic statements about why destructive weather happens
 - ii. Elihu questions Job quite similarly to the way that God will question him in the following chapters (**vss. 14-24**)
 1. Simply, neither Job nor any of us has the knowledge to answer these questions
 - a. Though we may have a desire to contend with God in the flesh, spiritually we know that we cannot
 - i. His ways are above our ways

III. Conclusion

- a. Job and his three friends have considered Job's calamity
 - i. The friends were completely off
 - ii. Job had some misunderstandings

- iii. Elihu spoke the truth for the most part, it appears
 - 1. There certainly are a few of his comments which are hard to decipher
- b. God Himself is about to speak
 - i. When God speaks, we can be confident that the speech is correct and whatever is said is absolute truth
 - 1. Though we have had some difficulty weeding the bad things from the good in the speeches of men, all of God's words are right and correct
 - a. There can be no weeding when it comes to God's Words
 - i. We must, if we are to be correct, accept them all as absolute truths