



The Gospel According to Job

August 9: Elihu Critiques Job's Friends: Job 32

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Suspense is running high at this point in the book. What is the nature of the gauntlet that Job has thrown down before God?

Ecclesiastes 3:7 tells us that there is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." How do you know the difference?

Job 32:1-5

What change in style do we see in verses 1-5?

Why do Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar stop responding to Job according to the author?

Who is Elihu?

What is Elihu's evaluation of Job? Of his three friends?

Luke 10:29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Is Elihu right to be angry?

James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires.

Job 32:6-10

Why did Elihu wait to speak?

What actually brings understanding?

^{NLT} **Job 32:8** Surely it is God's Spirit within people, the breath of the Almighty within them, that makes them intelligent.

Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Job 32:11-14

What had Elihu been doing through the conversation between Job and his friends?

Proverbs 13:3 Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

What warning does he have for the friends?

Job 32:15-17

What evaluation does he have for the friends?

What choice has Elihu made?

Job 32:18-20

What is Elihu's predicament? Have you ever felt this way?

What spirit does Elihu address here? Is he adopting a prophetic voice?

Jeremiah 20:9 If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

Job 32:21-22

What is Elihu's intention?

What will God do to the flatterer?

James 2:1-4 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

August 16: Elihu Critiques Job: Job 33