



# The Gospel According to Job

August 16: Elihu Critiques Job: Job 33

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Who did Elihu address last week in chapter 32?

Based on our previous discussion, what is Elihu's place in this book?

## Job 33:1-4

Here, Elihu plays on Job's own words from chapter 27. What is Elihu saying?

**Job 27:2-4** As God lives, who has taken away my right, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, as long as my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils, my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not utter deceit.

## Job 33:5-7

What does Elihu expect from Job?

How does Elihu live his life?

**Psalm 56:13** For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.

## Job 33:8-11

How does Elihu summarize Job's confession?

**Job 13:27** You put my feet in the stocks and watch all my paths; you set a limit for the soles of my feet.

## Job 33:12-18

Does Elihu accept Job's confession?

How does Elihu say God speaks?

**Hebrews 1:1-2** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

What is God's purpose in speaking?

## **Job 33:19-22**

What is the purpose of suffering according to Elihu?

Can suffering be a form of mercy from God?

**Job 5:17** Behold, blessed is the one whom God reproves; therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty. For he wounds, but he binds up; he shatters, but his hands heal.

## **Job 33:23-25**

What does one need in the midst of suffering?

**Job 16:19** Even now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and he who testifies for me is on high.

What is the significance of the mention of "the thousand"?

**Psalms 50:10** For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

## **Job 33:26-28**

What does repentance look like?

What happens when God is merciful to the repentant?

**Psalms 71:23-24** My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed. And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long.

## **Job 33:29-33**

How does God act in the world?

Does Elihu want Job to speak or to stay silent?

What does Elihu have to offer Job?