

## Job – Part 10

### Elihu—an upset young man with a lot to say

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a thought-provoking series of studies on the book of Job. Our topic today: Elihu—an upset young man with a lot to say

Scripture Song: I would have lost heart (Ps. 27:13-14)

- 1) Speaking the right words at the right time
  - a) Proverbs 25:11-13;
  - b) Share a time when someone spoke the right words to you at the right time.
  - c) Even when speaking the right words at the right time, why is it always important to speak the truth with love and grace? (See Ephesians 4:14-15; Colossian 4:6)
- 2) Speaking truth at the wrong time
  - a) Job 15:14-16 – while this may be true, what mistake was Eliphaz making here?
  - b) Job 18:5-6, 21 – Is Bildad speaking the truth here? How does the response of Job in Job 19:1-2 reveal the poor timing of Bildad’s comments?
  - c) Share an experience of trying to share truth at the wrong time.
  - d) How can we ensure that we are sharing truth at an appropriate time and in an appropriate way?
- 3) The testimony of Elihu

- a) Job ended his defense (Job 31:40) maintaining that he did not deserve the things that had happened to him.
  - b) Now another man appears on the scene—Elihu. Why is he so upset with Job? Job 32:1-2
    - i) Is his assessment of Job correct? What can we learn from Elihu’s haste to judge Job’s motives and intentions?
  - c) Why is Elihu so upset with Job’s three “comforters”? Job 32:3-5
  - d) Job 32:18-20 How does Elihu describe himself?
  - e) At the end of this narrative the LORD rebukes Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar (Job 42:7), but He does not rebuke Elihu. This leads some to conclude that Elihu should not be grouped with the first three counselors. However, consider these comments:
    - i) Job 33:1-3, 9, 32-33. How do you respond to Elihu’s comments?
    - ii) Job 34:10-12 What mistake is Elihu making here?
    - iii) Job 34:35-37 Is Elihu speaking truth here?
- 4) The enemy behind the scenes
    - a) In all of the comments of Job’s comforters, no mention is made of Satan. Why is it important to understand the cosmic battle between good and evil? (see Revelation 12:7-12)
    - b) What lessons can we learn from Satan’s attacks on Jesus? Matthew 4:1-11; Matthew 16:22-23
    - c) How can we stand firm no matter how intense the battle? 1 Peter 5:6-11