



WHEN GOD IS
SILENT
(The Book of Job)

Elihu's Answer to Job's Why Questions

Job 32:1-37:24

REVIEW — Let's remember what we have learned ...

Meet Mr. Job — He is not sinless, but he is a genuine believer who is suffering (Chapters 1-2)

Job's Sorrow in the Midst of Silence — He begins to be filled with “why” questions (Chapter 3)

Where Job's Friends Went Wrong — A cycle of accusatory speeches to answer Job's “why” questions (Chapters 4-37)

When God Doesn't Answer Our Why Questions — A unique chapter in Job to remind us that wisdom is what we need, and that wisdom is to be content with God Himself (Chapter 28)

INTRODUCTION — Elihu: You gotta meet this guy (Chapters 32-37)

The Man — Where has he been all along? (Chapter 32)

- Elihu is **ANGRY** at Job and Job's three friends. vs. 1-5
- Elihu offers the **LONGEST** speech vs. 6-22

The Message — What is he going to say to Job? (Chapters 33-37)

- It lays down an important Biblical **PRINCIPLE** — God speaks on His own time.
- It is **PREPARATORY** for what God will say, when He speaks, to Job. (Chapter 38)

LESSON — Elihu's Answer to Job's Why Questions 32:1-37:24

I. EVEN WHEN LIFE IS **CONFUSING**, GOD IS STILL **COMMUNICATING**. Chapter 33

Elihu reminded Job that God was speaking to him through his **DREAMS**. (vs. 13-18; Cf. Isaiah 8:19-20; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Elihu reminded Job that God was speaking to him through his **SUFFERING**. (vs. 19-22)

- God might have sent Job this suffering, not because he had **SINNED**, but to keep him from **SINNING**. (Cf. 2 Corinthians 12:7)
- Suffering not only keeps a person from going **WAYWARD**, it causes them to learn the **WAYS** of God. (Cf. Psalm 119:67,71; Hebrews 5:8)

Elihu reminded Job that God was speaking to him through **OTHERS**. (vs. 23-27)

II. EVEN WHEN LIFE IS **UNFAIR**, GOD IS NEVER **UNJUST**. Chapter 34

Elihu reminded Job that God always does what is **RIGHT**. (vs. 10-12)

Elihu reminds Job, when you are discouraged, remember the **CHARACTER** of God. (vs. 13, 14-15, 17-20)

III. EVEN WHEN LIFE IS **HARD**, GOD IS NOT **HEARTLESS**. Chapter 35

Elihu reminded Job that God gives **SONGS** in the night. (vs. 9-11; Cf. Matthew 26:30; Acts 16:25)

IV. EVEN WHEN LIFE BECOMES **UNSETTLED**, GOD IS NOT **UNSEATED**. Chapter 36-37

Elihu reminded Job of the terrible end of **SINNERS**. (36:12,22-23)

Elihu reminded Job of God's power over the **SEASONS**. (36:27-37:14)

The Application — What is our take-away from Elihu and how will he help you relate to those who are suffering?

- 1) Elihu **CAUTIONS** us to guard our anger.
- 2) Elihu **CHALLENGES** us to prepare our/others souls when they are suffering on how to be ready to hear from God.

Next Series — Introducing the Third Mini Series from the Book of Job: **When God Speaks!**