

A Legitimate Accusation Against Job (Job 34)

I. Elihu States His General Case (1-15)

A. Elihu calls for a Judgment of His Words (1-4)

1. Listen to me you wise men (1-2)
2. Judge carefully what I am saying (3-4)

B. Elihu Accuses Job of Disparaging God's Justice (5-9)

1. Job has Accused God of Injustice (5-6)
 - a. Job has declared his righteousness
 - b. Job has accused God of taking away his righteousness
 - c. Job accused God of falsely charging him with lying
 - d. Job accused God of wounding him without cause
2. Job has joined the Ranks of Evil Men (7-9)
 - a. Job has taken to scoffing
 - b. Job is now traveling in company with evildoers and walking with the wicked
 - c. This sounds like what the three friends have said about Job – But there is a difference
 - i. Elihu is not accusing Job of some secret sin that has caused his suffering
 - ii. Elihu says Job has joined the wicked because of what he has said in the midst of suffering
 - iii. Job has said it doesn't profit to delight in God

C. Elihu Defends God's Righteousness (10-15)

1. Elihu Asserts God's Justice and Goodness (10-12)

- a. God does not ever do wrong (10)
 - i. God will never do wickedness
 - ii. God can never do wrong
- b. God is perfectly just (11)
 - i. Once again this sounds like the friends
 - ii. Elihu's point is that God is always just in his dealings with men. Not that men earn blessing from God
- c. God is perfectly Good (12)
 - i. God cannot do evil
 - ii. God cannot pervert justice

2. Elihu Asserts God's Authority (13-15)

- a. He has authority over the whole earth (13)
- b. He has authority of life and death over mankind (14)
- c. He has authority to destroy mankind (15)

II. Elihu Shows Job Has Sinned in His Suffering (16-37)

A. Job Has Falsely Spoken About God (16-30)

1. Job has condemned the righteous (16-17)
 - a. Elihu charges Job with condemning God
 - b. Job is doing here exactly what he lamented that God was doing to him

- c. Job claimed God's injustice because he was "punishing" Job even though he is righteous – but Job is doing the same to God
 - 2. God is Righteous in All His Judgments (18-30)
 - a. God Judges Impartially (18-20)
 - i. God created all – Kings as well as the poor
 - ii. God sees all men equally beneath Him
 - iii. God will see the death of all – great and small
 - b. God Judges with Perfect Knowledge of Man (21-25)
 - i. God sees all men's steps (21)
 - ii. Man can hide nowhere from God (22)
 - iii. God doesn't need to have a trial – He knows (23)
 - iv. God does his will without investigation – overturns men and crushes them when needed (24-25)
 - c. God Judges Openly Before all Men (26-28)
 - i. He judges men for all to see
 - ii. Those who have disobeyed him are not judged in secret – there is no mystery at work
 - d. God Judges Inevitably (29-30)
 - i. No one has the right to judge God when he is silent – not a nation or a man (29)
 - ii. God will bring judgment – it is not for man to say when (30)
- B. Job has Spoken Pridefully Toward God (31-37)
 - 1. Job must show humility toward God (31-33)
 - a. Job should be more careful how he speaks of God (31-32)
 - i. The proper response before God is humility
 - ii. Job should as to be taught what he cannot see
 - iii. Job should be humble toward his unintentional sins
 - b. Job should not expect God to justify what Job has said (33)
 - i. Job should not think God will change because Job rejects his ways
 - ii. Job must choose pride or humility
 - 2. Job has sinned in his words toward God (34-37)
 - a. Job is not simply mistaken about what he has said (34-35)
 - i. Job cannot accept men's excuses
 - ii. Job is not just mistaken – he has taken a high handed view of God in his suffering
 - b. Job has sinned in the midst of his trials (36-37)
 - i. Elihu wishes Job would be tried by God

- ii. Job answers just like the wicked men – though he claims innocence
- iii. Job adds rebellion to his suffering
- iv. Job has spoken against God