

Volume 2 Books of Poetry Job 32:1 – 10

"Then the wrath of Elihu was kindled... against Job because he justified himself rather than God... against his three friends because they had no answer, and yet had condemned Job. Now Elihu had waited until Job had spoken, because they were older than he. And Elihu said, "I am young, and you are very old; wherefore I was afraid, and dared not tell you my opinion. I said, "Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom. But there is a spirit in a man; and *it is* the inspiration of the Almighty *that* gives them understanding. Great men are not always wise; neither do the aged *always* understand justice." Therefore, I said, "Hearken unto me; I will also show my opinion." Job 32:1-10

The young Elihu is correct, age and experience does not necessarily translate into wisdom or justice. The natural mind may think so, but Elihu has discovered that such things as wisdom and understanding flow from the inspiration and revelation of the Spirit of God. Age and experience doesn't automatically indicate wisdom – far more often the explanation of our experience is far from the truth. Job's statement "the Lord gives and the Lord takes away" (Job 1:21) is classic to our understanding of this principle's outworking. To the natural mind – the religious mind – this sounds quite reasonable. But the truth which comes from the inspiration of God's Spirit through the Scriptures is quite the opposite – the Lord gave Job the blessing and the devil stole it! (See John 10:10)

Never rely upon human reasoning or experience, for at some point, they will all fail. And never be intimidated by position or experience, but rather humbly look to the quickening of the Holy Spirit!

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