

Studies in Job
Elihu, “Consider the Wonders of God”
Job 36-37

- I. Introduction to Elihu’s Final Speech (36:1-4)**
 - A. Appeal

 - B. Elihu’s claim

- II. God’s Disciplinary Use of Affliction (36:5-16)**
 - A. God is almighty and just (6-7)

 - B. God instructs the afflicted (8-10)

 - C. The consequences of listening and not listening (11-15)

- III. Warning to Job (36:16-23)**
 - A. God has disciplined Job (16-17)

 - B. Don’t trust money (18-19)

 - C. Don’t look to death (20-21)

 - D. Who is a teacher like God? (22-23)

- IV. God is Exalted and Incomprehensible (36:24-37:13)**
 - A. Extol His work (24-25)

 - B. God is incomprehensible (26)

 - C. Sovereign over the clouds and lightning (27-33)

 - D. Listen to the thunder of His voice (37:1-5)

- E. Sovereign over the weather (6-13)
- F. Sovereign in His purposes (13)

HC 27. Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

A. God's providence is His almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with His hand, He still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come not by chance, but by His fatherly hand.

V. Consider the Wonders of God (37:14-24)

- A. Appeal to Job (14)
- B. Do you understand His ways? (15-18)
- C. Do you know what to say to Him? (19-20)
- D. God is great in power and justice (21-24)

Conclusion

“Especially noticeable is the wide gulf between the God of biblical faith and the God of modern culture-religion (in both its conservative and liberal modes). The God of folk religion is a God of sentimental love, not holy love. He is the One who forgives no matter what we do. He is the “Man upstairs” who is approached as an indulgent father, not as a Sovereign King. This is the god who is a means to man’s own happiness, who enables man to attain self-fulfillment. . . In popular evangelicalism God is portrayed as powerful, but not invincible. His loving mercy is exalted but not His universal Lordship. God, it is thought, desires our worship, but little recognition is given to His kingship over all areas of life.”

Donald Bloesch, *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*, I. 45.