

CHAPTER 35

ELIHU spake moreover, and said,

2 Thinkest thou this to be right, *that* thou saidst, My righteousness is more than God's?

3 For thou saidst, What advantage will it be unto thee? *and*, What profit shall I have, *if I be cleansed* from my sin?

4 I will answer thee, and thy companions with thee.

5 Look unto the heavens, and see; and behold the clouds *which* are higher than thou.

6 If thou sinnest, what doest thou against him? or *if* thy transgressions be multiplied, what doest thou unto him?

7 If thou be righteous, what givest thou him? or what receiveth he of thine hand?

8 Thy wickedness *may hurt* a man as thou *art*; and thy righteousness *may profit* the son of man.

9. By reason of the multitude of oppressions they make *the oppressed* to cry: they cry out by reason of the arm of the mighty.

10 But none saith, Where *is* God my maker, who giveth songs in the night;

11 Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?

12 There they cry, but none giveth answer, because of the pride of evil men.

13 Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it.

14. Although thou sayest thou shalt not see him, *yet* judgment is before him; therefore trust thou in him.

15 But now, because *it is* not so, he hath visited in his anger; yet he knoweth *it* not in great extremity:

16 Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain; he multiplieth words without knowledge.

CHAPTER 36

ELIHU also proceeded, and said, 2 Suffer me a little, and I will shew thee that *I have* yet to speak on God's behalf.

3 I will fetch my knowledge from

afar, and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.

4 For truly my words *shall* not be false: he that is perfect in knowledge *is* with thee.

5. Behold, God *is* mighty, and despiseth not *any*: *he is* mighty in strength *and* wisdom.

6 He preserveth not the life of the wicked: but giveth right to the poor.

7 He withdraweth not his eyes from the righteous: but with kings *are they* on the throne; yea, he doth establish them for ever, and they are exalted.

8 And if *they be* bound in fetters, *and* be holden in cords of affliction;

9 Then he sheweth them their work, and their transgressions that they have exceeded.

10 He openeth also their ear to discipline, and commandeth that they return from iniquity.

11 If they obey and serve *him*, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.

12 But if they obey not, they shall perish by the sword, and they shall die without knowledge.

13 But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath: they cry not when he bindeth them.

14 They die in youth, and their life *is* among the unclean.

15. He delivereth the poor in his affliction, and openeth their ears in oppression.

16 Even so would he have removed thee out of the strait *into* a broad place, where *there is* no straitness; and that which should be set on thy table *should be* full of fatness.

17 But thou hast fulfilled the judgment of the wicked: judgment and justice take hold *on thee*.

18 Because *there is* wrath, *beware* lest he take thee away with *his* stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee.

19 Will he esteem thy riches? *no*, not gold, nor all the forces of strength.

20 Desire not the night, when people are cut off in their place.

21 Take heed, regard not iniquity: for this hast thou chosen rather than affliction.

22 Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him?

23 Who hath enjoined him his way? or who can say, Thou hast wrought iniquity?

24. Remember that thou magnify his work, which men behold.

25 Every man may see it; man may behold *it* afar off.

26 Behold, God *is* great, and we know *him* not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.

27 For he maketh small the drops of water: they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof:

28 Which the clouds do drop *and* distil upon man abundantly.

29 Also can *any* understand the spreadings of the clouds, *or* the noise of his tabernacle?

30 Behold, he spreadeth his light upon it, and covereth the bottom of the sea.

31 For by them judgeth he the people; he giveth meat in abundance.

32 With clouds he covereth the light; and commandeth it *not to shine* by *the cloud* that cometh betwixt.

33 The noise thereof sheweth concerning it, the cattle also concerning the vapour.

CHAPTER 37

AT this also my heart trembleth, and is moved out of his place.

2 Hear attentively the noise of his voice, and the sound *that* goeth out of his mouth.

3 He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his lightning unto the ends of the earth.

4 After it a voice roareth: he

thundereth with the voice of his excellency; and he will not stay them when his voice is heard.

5 God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend.

6. For he saith to the snow, Be thou *on* the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength.

7 He sealet up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.

8 Then the beasts go into dens, and remain in their places.

9 Out of the south cometh the whirlwind: and cold out of the north.

10 By the breath of God frost is given: and the breadth of the waters is straitened.

11 Also by watering he wearieth the thick cloud: he scattereth his bright cloud:

12 And it is turned round about by his counsels: that they may do whatsoever he commandeth them upon the face of the world in the earth.

13 He causeth it to come, whether for correction, or for his land, or for mercy.

14. Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the won-

drous works of God.

15 Dost thou know when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine?

16 Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?

17 How thy garments *are* warm, when he quieteth the earth by the south *wind*?

18 Hast thou with him spread out the sky, *which is* strong, *and* as a molten looking glass?

19 Teach us what we shall say unto him; *for* we cannot order *our speech* by reason of darkness.

20 Shall it be told him that I

speaking? if a man speak, surely he shall be swallowed up.

21. And now *men* see not the bright light which *is* in the clouds: but the wind passeth, and cleanseth them.

22 Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God *is* terrible majesty.

23 *Touching* the Almighty, we cannot find him out: *he is* excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

24 Men do therefore fear him: he respecteth not any *that are* wise of heart.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Elihu continues his speech in chapter 35 by reproving both Job and his three friends. He condemns Job for having expressed the thought that because of his integrity he did not deserve what God was doing to him. Job felt, as Elihu put it in verse 2, “My righteousness is more than God’s.” Further, Elihu charged that Job said, “Why should I live righteously—the wicked are rewarded good for their evil and the righteous are rewarded by suffering.” Certainly Elihu was not entirely correct in his judgment of Job. For oftentimes Job illustrated from the prosperity of the wicked, simply to show that in the end the wicked would not prosper, while the righteous would enter his reward. However, there were occasions when Job, in his lapses from depending upon God rather than on the flesh, pitied himself and strongly intimated that the righteous life was not altogether worthwhile.

Next Elihu has a message for Job and his three friends. He reminds them that their help comes from the Lord; that God is greater than man. Elihu wanted them to realize that they were not dealing with frail human flesh, but with the Eternal God. Elihu also

declares to them that unless one cries unto the Lord in humility, he might just as well not call on the Lord. When proud men pray, their prayers go unheard and unanswered, because God will not give attention to a proud heart.

In chapter 36 Elihu continues by drawing attention to the greatness and majesty of God. Because of who He is and what He is, God should be respected and honored by everyone. “Behold, God is great,” declares Elihu. Indeed, He is great in power, great in wisdom, and great in wealth.

In chapter 37 Elihu continues his informative speech by reminding Job of the mighty power of God, as evidenced in the changes of the weather. In speaking further of the handiwork of God, he mentions the winds, the frost, and the clouds, all of which are under the Lord’s constant control.

God’s ways are unfathomable. Verse 23 says, “Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.” God is divine. We should respect Him, bow before Him, and acknowledge Him as Lord of all.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

“A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing” (Proverbs 9:13).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 19: For today’s memory verses, follow instructions on page 7.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

**DION PAINA
GREGORY KEYS**

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1845

ANDREW JACKSON DIED.

An interesting story is told concerning Andrew Jackson. Peter Cartwright, the old Methodist circuit rider, was preaching in a Southern city. General Jackson walked in the audience and was seated. A preacher behind Peter Cartwright reminded Mr. Cartwright that General Jackson had just walked in. Peter Cartwright kept on preaching the same old message he had been preaching. Again, he was warned by the preacher of General Jackson’s presence. Again Cartwright shrugged himself and kept preaching. The third time the preacher tugged at Peter Cartwright’s coat tail and reminded him that General Jackson was in the audience, Peter Cartwright turned and shouted

to the top of his voice, “You tell General Jackson if he doesn’t get born again, he will go to Hell just like anybody else.” It was said that after the service was over, General Jackson asked for a conference with Mr. Cartwright, whereupon he said, “Mr. Cartwright, if I had power over my men like you have with your God, I would never lose another battle as long as I live.”

1959

THE FIRST MAIL WAS DELIVERED BY MISSILE.

Again we think of the mail system and praise God for it. What a privilege to write a letter today and have it read across the country tomorrow, or the next day. What a day to live! What a generation to enjoy! What a day to serve God! Praise the Lord for the joy of living today in this generation.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1953

U.S. SUPREME COURT BANNED SEGREGATION IN WASHINGTON, D.C., RESTAURANTS.

1968

JAMES EARL RAY, ALLEGED ASSASSIN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., CAPTURED AT LONDON AIRPORT.

Hymn of the Week

“I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR”

Annie Sherwood Hawks

The famous pastor and hymn writer, Robert Lowry, joined hands and hearts with one of his parishioners to give America and the world one of the great hymns of comfort and devotion.

Annie Sherwood Hawks was born in Hoosick, New York, in 1835. She showed a poetic bent at the age of fourteen, having much of her work published in newspapers. Ten years later she moved to Brooklyn and united with the Hanson Place Baptist Church of which Dr. Lowry was pastor. He encouraged her in her writing, actually starting her on her hymn-writing ventures.

One morning, in her home, as she was busy about the chores at hand, she gives testimony that her home seemed to take on the light of Heaven and that she was in the very presence of God. The words, “I need Thee every hour,” flashed into her mind. She hurriedly found pencil and paper and began to write. Phrases flowed from her pencil. In just a few moments she had completed a poem, the first stanza of which is repeated here:

*I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord.
No tender voice like thine
Can peace afford.*

She realized personally the comforting power of her song only a few years later when her husband went to be with the Lord. She joined him in Heaven in 1918.

The song was first sung at the National Baptist Sunday School Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1872. Ira Sankey made it more popular as he used it in the Moody-Sankey meetings. It has been translated into several other languages.

The tune and chorus were written by Dr. Lowry. This addition in verse and the musical setting has done more than a little to carry the song to a wide circulation.

Major D.W. Whittle heard it at the World's Fair in Chicago and was moved to write another song of comfort, “Moment by Moment.”

*I need Thee every hour,
Stay Thou near by;
Temptations lose their pow'r
When Thou art night.*

Chorus:

*I need Thee, O, I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now my Saviour,
I come to Thee!*

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I MAY LOSE MY FRIENDS AND COMPANIONS"

(Assignment 19)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for the next seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," page xiii near the front of this book.)

() Proverbs 13:20 (Rev. 20:15)

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

() James 4:4 (Gal. 6:8–Isa. 13:11)

Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

() Psalms 1:1

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

() Psalms 1:2

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

() 1 John 1:3

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.