

Let God Be God  
The Gospel According to Elihu  
Job 32:10 – 33:33

We tend to see things from a single perspective. We develop our opinions about certain topics based on the limitations of our physicalness and life experiences. We are disappointed when circumstances change and force us down paths that we never considered traveling. We tend to think in the moment because we cannot think in the un-moments.

1. God speaks to us through our \_\_\_\_\_.

2. God speaks to us through our \_\_\_\_\_.

3. God speaks to us through our \_\_\_\_\_.

Through his sufferings, Job has gradually been learning the truth of the gospel. Though he lived centuries before the birth of Jesus Christ, Job was learning the truth of Jesus Christ: that He is our Mediator, our Advocate and Intercessor on high; that He is our Redeemer and the Door that leads to eternal life. Job was learning that through his sufferings his character and his theology were being refined. The same is true for us; we come to a deeper more intimate understanding of Christ as we depend on Him through our own sufferings.

Reflection

Why is it important to note that the purpose of suffering might be preventative instead of punitive? How might Job's friends have received this wisdom from Elihu? What does this reveal about the character of God? Review Job 33:19-22. Why would it be wrong to claim that all suffering is punishment for sin? Read Hebrews 11:24-25 and 1 Peter 4:12-13. How should these verses help frame a Christian's view of suffering? This week, when the moments seem difficult, try to think in terms of the un-moments. As bad as things might be, it might be helpful to think about the sinful choices and consequences that God is allowing you to escape.