\*WHO SENT ELIHU?\*

 \*"God speaks time and again; but nobody notices"\*

Job:33:14.

A close study of the story of Job, presented the appearance of a man introduced as Elihu; he came to reckoning after the afflictions of Job.

About a month ago; I had the prompting of the Holy Spirit to write about Elihu;

Howbeit, I did not do anything about it apart from a reminder I put in my Journal, because I got some other overriding instructions from God on some other messages.

On the 27th of March 2018, I heard God said : " \*Now is the time to write about Elihu".\*

The book of Job is perhaps one of the most ignored and controversial books of the old testament.

I remember when I was in the primary School; a class mate told me then:

 \*"anyone that reads the book of Job could die"\*

Consequently, I was scared from reading the book of Job for so long until I gave my life to Jesus.

 What a fallacy; \*Very untrue\* The bible is an holy book that contains \*words of God\*. It does not cause death but gives life and more importantly it reveals the true nature of God.

Job was a man described in the bible as perfect, upright and the one that feared God and eschewed evil".

 \*Job 1:1\*

The story goes that at some point, God boasted about Job when satan came before Him and eventually God allowed satan to afflict Job in order to test Job's trust and resolve for Him.

\*Job 1:6-12\*

To cut the long story short, calamities came upon Job and his family to the point that he lost everything and became so sick almost to the point of death.

Then emerged the three friends of Job: Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar who came to comfort and render support to Job.

\*Job:2:11-13\*

The message of today is centered mainly on the role played by \*Elihu\* and also the impact of Job's friends during the painful period.

It is apparent that Job got self centered; that He started over- stating his good deeds and self righteousness.

 \*Job 29\*.

He became self righteous, that pride set in to the extent that \*he was talking more about himself and ego took the better of him.\* He was only seeing things from his own perspective and relegated God Almighty as the second fiddle.

Job became very obsessed with himself and what he has done: " \*I\* did this and that, it was \*me\* that made the difference".

The friends of Job did not help matters either; because they \*failed to hit the nail on the head:\* they failed to tell Job that it was \*his ego and self righteous\* attitude that made him to suffer for long.

\*Job :29:8-10\*

"The three friends of Job stopped in answering him when he was trying to justify himself before God.They felt he was being righteous in his own eyes".

\*Job 32:1\*

Suddenly, just like Elijah in the book of 1 Kings 17; Elihu was introduced to the scene in chapter 32 of the book of Job;

 \*"But Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite of the family of Ram became very angry with Job for justifying himself rather than God".\*

\*Job:32:2\*

There is no clear indication of his relationship with Job. He was not mentioned

anywhere else in the book of Job or the bible before that event.

However, one thing is clear about Elihu; he was younger than the three friends of Job;

"Now Elihu had waited before speaking to Job because they were older than he" \*Job 32:4\*.

Elihu could not hide his disdain about the whole saga;

 \*"I thought age should speak and advanced years should speak wisdom? but it is the Spirit in a person: the breath of the Almighty, that gives them understanding"\* Job 32:7&8.

Elihu said further :

"Sometimes the elders are not wise and the old people do not understand justice. So listen to me I too will tell you what I know".

\*Job 32:9&10\*

Elihu felt \*Job was taking glory\* for what God did. He was further angered that he felt there was need to rebuke and correct Job of his mistakes;

 \*"Wait for me a little while and I will show you there is more to be said unbehalf of God , my knowledge is wide and I will use what I know to show that God my creator is just, you can be rest assured that what I say is true.\*

Job 36:2

 \*For I do not know how to flatter;\* otherwise God will punish me and take me away.

\*Job 32:22\*

Elihu was very critical of Job:

 \*"Job ought to be tried because he answered like the wicked people do; to his sins he adds rebellion, he claps his hands among us and multiply his words against God".\*

 Job 34:37 .

\*Elihu gave glory to God\* as the source of his understanding as against talk of experience by Job and of age demonstrated by Job's friends.

It is interesting to note that immediately Elihu finished speaking in Job chapter 37; God answered Job of all his self -glorification and righteousness.

 \*Job:38\*

God spoke to Job out of the whirlwind : \*"who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words?; Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?Tell Me, if you have understanding".\* Job :38:2-4.

After God had spoken these words to Job, He spoke to Eliphaz the Temanite:

"I am angry with you and your two friends because you have not spoken the truth about me as Job has.

God showed His anger upon the three friends of Job for the role they played in the whole matter.

\*Job 42:7-9\*

Interestingly, God was silent about Elihu.

I began this message with a similarity in the character of Elihu to that of Elijah as it relates to the way the bible introduced the two characters into the scene.

However, a close study of the book of Job shows that there are other similarities between them;

God answered Elijah by fire, before the prophets of baal as captured in the book of

 \*1King 18\* ;God came into the scene through whirlwind and he answered Job after Elihu ushered in God.

Both Elihu and Elijah have very similar names; both of them were unknown before their appearance to the scenes.

Hummm.Food for thought!🤔

The crux of this message is to further buttress the fact that God is still speaking to us in this age and time, just as Elihu said in the memory verse.

In answering the question : \*who sent Elihu?\*

Elihu appeared as one \*sent by God\* as His mouth piece to warn Job, but because he was unknown and younger; Job and his friends ignored him.

However, God reaffirmed Elihu 's words when HE spoke.

 \*PRAYER\* Father: Please help me to discern your correction and reprimand; so I will not ignore your instructions for my life in the name of Jesus. 🙏🏼🙏🏼🙏🏼

He that has ears, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church of God.

Shalom.

Signed, Bro Cole