

### 33:1

“But please, Job, hear my speech, Elihu continues.

### 33:4

**The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.** Another reference to this man who is convinced that the Holy Spirit is guiding him (going back to the previous chapter). In other words, he is blaming his words on the Holy Spirit. It’s hard to trump that. Who is going to say to somebody and say “you really aren’t hearing from God.”

This does make sense. If the Holy Spirit is causing us to live (Genesis 2:7)...He ought to be the one who lives through us for all things, right? What if we really did obey every spiritual impulse.

### 33:6

**<sup>b</sup>Truly I am as your spokesman before God;** “You wanted God to come and see you? I am here. You wanted a daysmen (9:33); I am here to do that.” 1 Peter 4:10-12 require us to have this same confidence if we are to speak of God. This is another very strange reflection back to Job by Peter in his epistle.

This means we need to know what God says. How many want to be used by God but won’t read their Bibles?

### 33:9

**<sup>d</sup>I am pure, without transgression; I am innocent, and there is no iniquity in me.** Job has never said this. He has intimated that his punishment was out of proportion, but that is significantly different.

### 33:15-18

**In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, 16 Then He opens the ears of men, And seals their instruction.** God is constantly waking people up with good ideas. We are told in Joel 2 that this will indeed happen again. If it happens again, stay away from the Holy Spirit. **17 In order to turn man from his deed, And conceal pride from man,** God in His goodness keeps us from opportunities to do wrong? What a good God! He even keeps it from us so we don’t take credit!

**18 He keeps back his soul** not some disembodied entity, but a word that is often translated “life.” **from the Pit,** This word is found in verses 22, 24, 28, and 30. God can indeed bring folks back from the grave—a literal place where one is buried. So he continues to keep lives back from the grave. **And his life from perishing by the sword.** God does indeed spare people from death and extend their lives.

### 33:23

**“If there is a messenger for him, A mediator, one among a thousand, To show man His uprightness,** Aren’t we glad that Job...and Elihu...have a **mediator** if they are willing (1

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<sup>b</sup>4:19

<sup>d</sup>10:7

Timothy 2:5 ties together **mediator** and “ransom” of Matthew 20:28 and Mark 10:45). Jesus is this **mediator**. Bless the Lord, a ransom has been found.

### **33:25-29**

**His flesh shall be young like a child’s, He shall return to the days of his youth.** Elihu tells Job, based on what is mentioned here, that if he’ll repent...he’ll have brand new skin.

**26 He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, He shall see His face with joy,** This is an awfully cruel play on Job’s sentiment of 19:25-26. Elihu says Job has no such hope unless he confesses his sin. Moreover, he offers hope for “healing” to Job only in this life. He was unsure, apparently, about the afterlife and so he assumed Job must be unsure as well.

**28 He will redeem his soul from going down to the Pit, And his life shall see the light.** We do know that confession of sin does bring healing, it seems. James 5:16-20 seems to say the same and we appreciate James’ propensity to comment with Job as a backdrop (James 5:10-11).

**29 “Behold, God works all these things, Twice, in fact, three times with a man, 30 To bring back his soul from the Pit,** What a joy that God is the One in our story Who wants my restoration. This is, again, referenced in James 5:13-20 in the restoration of those deathly ill. James was thinking about Job.

### **33:33**

**If not, listen to me; Hold your peace, and I will teach you wisdom.”** We have no doubt that the opening verses of the next chapter are in reply to Elihu’s request, twice mentioned in three verses, for Job to **hold [his] peace**.