## JPS [Online]

## Elihu Rebukes Job's Friends

- ¹So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. ²Then was kindled the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram; against Job was his wrath kindled, because he justified himself rather than God. ³Also against his three friends was his wrath kindled, because they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job. ⁴Now Elihu had waited to speak unto Job, because they were older than he. ⁵And when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, his wrath was kindled.
- <sup>6</sup>And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said: I am young, and ye are very old; Wherefore I held back, and durst not declare you mine opinion.
- <sup>7</sup>I said: 'Days should speak, And multitude of years should teach wisdom.'
- But it is a spirit in man, And the breath of the Almighty, that giveth them understanding.
- <sup>9</sup>It is not the great that are wise, Nor the aged that discern judgment.
- 10Therefore I say: 'Hearken to me; I also will declare mine opinion.'
- <sup>11</sup>Behold, I waited for your words, I listened for your reasons, Whilst ye searched out what to say.
- <sup>12</sup>Yea, I attended unto you, And, behold, there was none that convinced Job, Or that answered his words, among you.
- 13Beware lest ye say: 'We have found wisdom; God may vanquish him, not man!'
- 14For he hath not directed his words against me; Neither will I answer him with your speeches.
- 15They are amazed, they answer no more; Words are departed from them.
- 16And shall I wait, because they speak not, Because they stand still, and answer no more?
- <sup>17</sup>I also will answer my part, I also will declare mine opinion.
- 18For I am full of words; The spirit within me constraineth me.
- 19Behold, mine inwards are as wine which hath no vent; Like new wine-skins which are ready to burst.
- <sup>20</sup>I will speak, that I may find relief; I will open my lips and answer.
- <sup>21</sup>Let me not, I pray you, respect any man's person; Neither will I give flattering titles unto any man.
- <sup>22</sup>For I know not to give flattering titles; Else would my Maker soon take me away