

# Job 32:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lest ye should say, We have found out wisdom: God thrusteth him down, not man.

## Analysis

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Elihu warns: 'Lest ye should say, We have found out wisdom: God thrusteth him down, not man.' The phrase *matsanu chokmah* (מָצְאֵנוּ חֵכְמָה, we have found wisdom) suggests the friends thought they comprehended Job's situation. Elihu cautions against claiming to possess wisdom that belongs to God alone. The phrase 'God thrusteth him down' (El yiddefennu, אֱלֹהִים יִדְּפֶנּוּ) means God defeats or repels him. Elihu argues that Job's case requires divine, not human, resolution. Only God can adequately answer Job; human wisdom fails.

## Historical Context

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Elihu's warning addresses the friends' presumption throughout the dialogues—they claimed to understand God's purposes in Job's suffering. Elihu recognizes their failure and prepares for God's direct intervention. The verse teaches epistemological humility: some questions exceed human wisdom and require divine revelation. This prepares readers for God's speeches where divine wisdom will supersede all human attempts at explanation.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Elihu's warning challenge our tendency to claim we understand what only God knows?
2. What is the proper balance between seeking wisdom and acknowledging that some matters require divine revelation?

## Interlinear Text

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פֶּן	תִּאמְרוּ	מָצָאנוּ	חֵכְמָה	לֵאלֹהִים	יִדְכֶּנּוּ
H6435	Lest ye should say	We have found out	wisdom	God	thrusteth him down
	H559	H4672	H2451	H410	H5086
לֹא	אִישׁ:				
H3808	not man				
	H376				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 9:23** (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: