

# Job 33:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, he findeth occasions against me, he counteth me for his enemy,

## Analysis

**Behold, he findeth occasions against me** (הֵן תְּנוּאוֹת יִמְצָא־עָלַי, hen tenu'ot yimtza-alai)—Elihu quotes Job's complaint that God seeks pretexts to condemn him. **תְּנוּאוֹת** (tenu'ot, 'occasions') derives from **אָנָּה** (anah, 'to meet, encounter'), suggesting contrived opportunities or manufactured charges. **יִמְצָא** (ymtza, 'findeth') implies active searching—Job had accused God of scrutinizing him to discover faults (7:17-20, 10:13-17). This reflects Job's distorted perception: believing God hostile rather than pedagogical.

**He counteth me for his enemy** (וְיַחֲשֶׁבֶנִי לְאֹיֵב לוֹ, yachsheveni le-oyev lo)—**חָשַׁב** (chashav, 'counteth/reckoneth') means to think, consider, or account. **אֹיֵב** (oyev, 'enemy') describes active hostility, not mere opposition. Job had made this accusation explicitly (13:24, 19:11)—seeing God as adversary rather than sovereign Father. Elihu will refute this thoroughly: God disciplines those He loves (33:14-30), using suffering to prevent sin (33:17-18) and restore relationship (33:26-28). Job's error lay in interpreting divine discipline as divine enmity—a mistake believers still make when trials come.

## Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern religions often portrayed capricious gods who acted arbitrarily or hostilely toward humans. Job's complaint echoed pagan theology more than covenant faith. Israel's God disciplines His children (Deuteronomy 8:5, Proverbs 3:11-12), but Job's suffering had temporarily obscured this truth. Elihu's

correction anticipates Hebrews 12:5-11, which quotes Proverbs to explain that God's discipline proves sonship, not enmity.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How do you interpret trials—as divine hostility or fatherly discipline?
2. What distorted views of God emerge when we focus on circumstances rather than His revealed character?
3. How does understanding God as loving Father rather than hostile judge change your response to suffering?

## Interlinear Text

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יְהוָה	עַל־י	יִמְצֵא	יִחְשְׁבֵי נִי
H2005	H5921	H4672	H2803
occasions	Behold he findeth	against me he counteth	
H8569			
לְאֹיִב	לִי		
H341	H0		
me for his enemy			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 19:11** (Parallel theme): He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies.