

# Job 33:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness:

## Analysis

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Elihu speaks of mediators: 'If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness.' This acknowledges need for divine-human mediation. Elihu presents himself as such interpreter, anticipating Christ as ultimate mediator.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern wisdom featured intermediary figures. Elihu's 'one among a thousand' suggests rarity of true mediators.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. What makes someone qualified to interpret God's ways to others?
2. How does Christ fulfill the role of ultimate interpreter?

## Interlinear Text

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מִשְׁאָם	מִלְאָךְ	מִלְאָךְ	מִלְאָךְ	מִלְאָךְ	מִלְאָךְ
H518	If there	H5921	be a messenger	with him an interpreter	one
H3426		H4397		H3887	H4480
אֶלָּא	לְאֵד	לְהַגֵּיד	וְשָׁרוֹן		
among a thousand	to shew	unto man	his uprightness		
H505	H5046	H120	H3476		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Malachi 3:1** (Parallel theme): Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Ecclesiastes 7:28** (Parallel theme): Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found.

**2 Corinthians 5:20** (Parallel theme): Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

**Malachi 2:7** (Parallel theme): For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

**Haggai 1:13** (Parallel theme): Then spake Haggai the LORD'S messenger in the LORD'S message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD.

**Psalms 94:12** (Parallel theme): Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;

**Psalms 119:75** (Parallel theme): I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.

**Job 37:23** (Parallel theme): Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

**Job 36:3** (Parallel theme): I will fetch my knowledge from afar, and will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.

**Lamentations 3:32** (Parallel theme): But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

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