

D. Do not allow poor theology to mess up your life
Job 4-31 (selected portions)

1. A real dilemma....the misuse--- whether accidental or purposeful---of theological ideals often results in one being worse off than better. Theology is the study of God as presented in Scripture and attested in the life of the church. It is a keen science but is often governed more by emotion and preference than careful Bible study and consideration. Job is victimized by the theology of his friends--not in every aspect but in such as he can get no help from them and, in fact, finds himself in a worsening condition. Don't let it happen to you. The main areas of poor theology occur in the disputations of Job and his three friends..

2. The presentations of his friends: A round table talk!
I Will attempt to show what I regard as error and note how Job is influenced by their thinking. His responses are mostly negative and that is fine except that it leads him to a poorer relation with his God.
 - a. Eliphaz: speaks in chapters 4-5, 15 and 22
Job responds to him in in 6-7, 16-17, 23-24
His theology is based on mysticism and he is convinced that Job has lost the favor of God due to a secret sin He is the most blatant of the ghree.

 - b. Bildad speaks in chapter 8 while Job answers in 9-10; and Bildad continues in 18 while Job answers in 19 . The cycle is finished by Bildad in 25 giving Job cause to answer in 26-31.
This man is an "intellectual" and presumption is main fault...he knows God better than God knows himself.

 - c. Zophar speaks twice: chapter 11 with Job answering in 12-14 and again in chapter 21 with Job responding in 22. He finds Job hypocritical and urges him to confess and repent.

Looking at the three, Eliphaz is a mystic, Bildad is