

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

April 14, 2014

Everybody is not your friend

JOB 42:7-9 NKJV – (7) And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me *what is* right, as My servant Job *has*." (8) Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you *according to your* folly; because you have not spoken of Me *what is* right, as My servant Job *has*." (9) So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite *and* Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the LORD commanded them; for the LORD had accepted Job.

In **Chapter 42** of Job, prayers and offerings had to be made on behalf of Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite for the evil words they had spoken against the Lord.

What was their message, and does the church today perpetuate this same misunderstanding of God?

Job's three friends' words were evil; they misrepresented God as a harsh Judge who punished Job with sicknesses because he must have sinned. Their message: "Repent of your wicked ways, and get right with God! You'd better confess your sins or else God will not hear your prayers!" They made Job feel condemned instead of comforting him, hence Job's reference to them as "miserable comforters!"

If not careful, the church today can show the same misunderstanding of God when we have the same mentality as the three friends. **MANY** have fallen short, but we must encourage, love, comfort, be patient and guide according to the word of God. Job was the victim, yet he chose to represent the true and living God.

SCRIPTURE READING

PROVERBS 17:17

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The grass is green, but the water bill is high on the other side.

April 1, 2014

