

Speaking from Knowledge and Speaking from Revelation

The 4 preachers spoke against Job out of knowledge *about* God without really knowing Him or His ways, and only confused things. Then God Himself spoke and as a result Job saw God, humbled himself as a nobody, and repented.

Preacher #1 – Eliphaz [Job 4-7, 15-17, 22-24]

- assuming Job did wrong [4:7]
- using dreams/visions to authenticate viewpoint [4:12-13]
- speaking about God without knowing Him [5:3]
- false prophecy [5:19]
- labeling what Job said, without specifically addressing it (“uncooked egg white”) [6:6-7]
- mocking [15:2]
- claiming that pain is reaping from the sowing of wickedness [15:20]
- calling Job a hypocrite [15:34]
- false discernment, but actually inventing sins in Job’s life (“wronged the poor or widows”) [22:5-10]
- proclaiming that he has the answers [22:21,27]
- **proud, religious Pharisee**

Preacher #2 – Bildad [Job 8-10, 18-19, 25-31]

- not listening to what they had to say (“hot air”) [8:2]
- imagining sins of their children [8:4]
- saying this wouldn’t happen to them if they were upright [8:6,20]
- rooted in tradition of the past [8:8]
- mocking them [18:2]
- using scare tactics [18:4-21]
- God is too righteous for you to be righteous in His sight [25:4]
- **soft-spoken, sharp-tongued, theory-spouting pious man**

Preacher #3 – Zophar [Job 11-14, 20-2]

- offended by Job’s long responses [11:2]
- resorts to name-calling (“idiot”, “son of a wild donkey”) [11:12]
- says he’s agitated [20:2]
- accuses Job of secretly hiding sin [20:12]
- too angry to speak a third time
- **angry, agitated man**

Preacher #4 – Elihu [Job 32-37]

- angry [32:2]
- ranks Job, whom God had called blameless, as one of the most arrogant ever [34:7-9]
- **knowledgeable but un-tested young man**

Preacher #5 – The Holy Spirit [Job 38-41]

- speak of God’s greatness, not my own
- “If I control the lightning and animals, don’t you think I was in control when calamity struck you?” [38:35-36]
- realize how puny you are even compared to other beasts God has created, and humble yourself [41:1]

The Effect of Revelation [Job 42]

- faith [42:2]
- seeing God [42:5]
- repentance [42:6]
- humility [42:6]