

S.O.H.L. (11/1/10)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

The Great Falling Away (Pt. 1 of 3) & False Teachers

1 TIMOTHY 4:1-5 NKJV – (1) Now the Spirit expressly says that in last days some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, (3) forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. (4) For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; (5) for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

The Holy Spirit, both in the Old and the New Testament, spoke of a general turning from the faith of Christ, and the pure worship of God. This should come during the Christian dispensation (grace). False teachers forbid as evil what God has allowed, and command as a duty what he has left indifferent. We find exercise for watchfulness and self-denial, in attending to the requirements of God's law, without being tasked to imaginary duties, which reject what he has allowed. But nothing justifies an extreme or improper use of things; and nothing will be good to us, unless we seek by prayer for the Lord's blessing upon it.

The above paragraph also tells us that there will be a great falling away from Christ due to one's dependency, trust and loyalty to man (your earthly spiritual leader) and what he says compared to what the word of God says. **People put their leaders on pedestals forgetting that they are human, as though God has a higher expectancy of the leader, he or she can make a mistake! Now, it is one thing to make a mistake and it is another to have self agendas or motives. Though they are leaders and they preach and teach the word, some don't genuinely follow the instructions given by the Divine Himself! Could this be the very reason God tells us to "study thyself approved?" We find out they are not genuine in their walk, and all of a sudden we fall away from the church or even as much God because we believe God has let us down when it was actually man. God cannot make a mistake and He has only the best for His children.** So how do we get caught up not knowing this? These men and women are known as "False Teachers." In this three part series, we will review what the Apostles Paul, Peter and Jude has to say about the "False Teacher and how many will fall away from truth, better known as (apostasy).

Is this type of behavior really taking place in the church today, especially among the **Christians**? The answer is "yes." Paul tells us in **2 THESSALONIANS 2:3-12 NKJV** – (3) Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin (anti christ) is revealed, the son of perdition, (4) who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (5) Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? (6) And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. (7) For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. (8) And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. (9) The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, (10) and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (11) And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, (12) that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

A reason why they (Thessalonians) should not expect the coming of Christ, as at hand, is given. There would be a general falling away first, such as would occasion the rise of antichrist, that man of sin. There have been great disputes who or what is intended by this man of sin and son of perdition. The man of sin not only practices wickedness, but also promotes and commands sin and wickedness in others; and is the son of perdition, because he is devoted to certain destruction, and is the instrument to destroy many others, both in soul and body. This means he is not accountable but promotes incorrectness to get motive(s) accomplished. As God was in the temple of old, and worshipped there, and is in and with his church now; so the antichrist here mentioned, is a usurper of God's authority in the Christian church, who claims Divine honors.

Because of the above mentioned. There will be a serious "religious defection" known again as apostasy.

SCRIPTURE READING - EPHESIANS 4:19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - The greatest sin is to not take it seriously!

November 1, 2010

