S.O.H.L. <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul"

November 14, 2011

Worshipping Him In Spirit & Truth

MATTHEW 15:8-9 NKJV – (8) These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. (9) And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

How often are many deceived in actually believing that they are worshipping God? By the way, this is a self evaluation. I speak on my behalf and the ways I use to worship God and deceive myself in believing I was genuine. Watching others, (who as well were not genuine), making my own rules and yet when I read the scripture above, God was saying to me, "Who Do You Think You're Fooling?" Don't you know I see and know everything, says the Almighty God? God said to me, let me show you the four types of worship.

1) A <u>WILL</u> WORSHIP – A SHOW OF CONSTITUTION.

COLOSSIANS 2:20-21 NLT – (20) You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, (21) "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"?

People living in legalism. The law proves we are a failure! Stop attaching rules to His word. He is the Holy One and we live by grace.

2) AN <u>IGNORANT</u> WORSHIP – A ZEAL, BUT NO KNOWLEDGE.

ACTS 17:22 NLT – (22) So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows: "Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way, (23) for as I was walking along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this inscription on it: 'To an Unknown God.' This God, whom you worship without knowing, is the one I'm telling you about.

God has called us to study His word with <u>*His*</u> approval. We can't claim to be like Him and we don't know what we are doing or talking about. Humble yourselves and learn "<u>the truth</u>."

3) A VAIN WORSHIP - WORSHIP ON YOUR AGENDA.

MATTHEW 6:5 NLT – (5) "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get.

You want to be seen and you are not genuine whatsoever. God knows your agenda and He is not pleased with you at all!

4) A TRUE WORSHIP – SPIRIT AND TRUTH.

JOHN 4:24 NLT - (24) For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

What does this mean? It means we must have a relationship with *Him*. Religiousity is not what *He* concludes as a relationship. I thank Him for showing me who I was. Yes, we can mess up, but we must chose to be like Him.

So what happens to those who continued being deceived by false worship...

MATTHEW 15:13-14 NLT – (13) Jesus replied, "Every plant not planted by my heavenly Father will be uprooted, (14) so ignore them. They are blind guides leading the blind, and if one blind person guides another, they will both fall into a ditch."

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 10:30

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Don't follow people, follow God.

