S.O.H.L. (12/8/08) <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul"

Nothing Stays The Same

I went shopping at Wal Mart the other day and as I was walking through the automatic front doors I noticed three twenty five cent bubble gum machines. I started thinking about the time when a piece of bubble gum cost a penny or at most a nickel. How a bottle of Coca Cola cost twenty five cents and how a box of popcorn at a movie would cost twenty five cents. I then thought about how once, the price of gasoline was about seventy cents a gallon. Of course, these prices existed in the mid seventies and at one time they may have been have been much lower than what I have stated. In addition, there are so many other items that we're not mentioned whose prices have increased significantly over the years.

However, nothing stays the same. Change is a necessity in this fast paced society! Changes have to be made because of the decisions that have been made by people. What I mean is a lot of bad decisions have been made along with some good decisions. However, God does not make good and bad decisions, Only **good**! He made the perfect plan for our lives. When Adam and Eve ate of the fruit, sin became a part of us (the people of this planet) and every since that time, more bad decisions have been made than good. So, we the people hustle and bustle to make ends meet. The Apostle Paul tells us in **2 Timothy 3:1-5** that in the last days that not only will things continue to get worse, but everything he speaks on will intensify! Don't be deceived.

So who and what is the problem? It isn't Christ. For **Hebrews 13:8** makes it clear, "**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever**." As I stated earlier He is always good! So that makes us our own worst enemy. Many of us claim to read, study and walk according to the word of God, but God is not our true priority and we live as if another day is promised (**James 4:13-17**). Many of us have also altered God's instructions to satisfy our own desires (**2 Timothy 4:3-4**). When we continue to make bad decisions, it can result to things getting worse! If we are suffering, nothing will get better unless we start doing things the way God teaches us. No matter how we look at it, we all have fallen short! We can't live and glorify God in a total perspective when we are living outside His teachings. We must surrender <u>all</u> things unto Him and be submissive to His way. I have stated this once and it's worth repeating, "<u>hope is only in the believer</u>."

SCRIPTURE READING

JAMES 4:7-10

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK The Bible: Breakfast of spiritual champions.