

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

July 1, 2013

Jesus Called Them Hypocrites

MATTHEW 7:21 NIV – (21) "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

A "Hypocrite" is an actor on stage; someone who is "assuming a part", and therefore pretending to be something they are not. In fact, history often depicts these actors wearing masks (usually with a smile or a frown) to portray the character. Thus, an actor in real life could be the most foul and rotten person, however, with their "smiling mask", they are transformed into someone or something else. As a result, the term "hypocrite" has come to refer to anyone who pretends or projects something they are not.

In meetings, in both the secular and non-secular world, I have experienced where the presider or teacher was just going through the motions. The person presented as if they either did not care about the topic and, in some cases, presented as if they were being forced to do so. Even worse, the presenter just wanted to speak on their knowledge of a subject, with little or no concern about the people listening.

Such people are very dangerous! The term used for today for someone like this is "phony." A person like this is not real and has a personal agenda. You will find that despite initial efforts at correction, a person like this will continue to be and do things that are self-satisfying or pleasing to those that are approving of their lifestyle. Their relationship with others is based on who is accepting of their behaviors, surrounding themselves with likeminded people who also compromise their values.

A heart of repentance is the last thing on their mind because "pride" has already won! Yet they will continue to claim to be the truth, about truth and walking in the truth! They claim God's name both inside and outside of the church. But they really don't think that God knows them? (**Matthew 7:23**)

Everyone is not about God. Everyone is not about God's will. Everyone is not about Christian values! There are two ways to do things, God' way and man's way. Only God's way is the right way.

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 7:21-23

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

People pretend to be many things, but God sees the heart.

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