(03/9/09)

S.O.H.L.

<u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u>

Pronounced "Soul"

The Bible Don't Say Anything About That.

Due to the explicit content of this meditation, viewers discretion is advised!

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NASB - (16) <u>All Scripture</u> is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; (17) so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. The key words are "<u>All Scripture</u>". The following question was presented to me at a bible study session. "What if the bible doesn't say anything about that? How would you address a person if they we're to say to you, the bible doesn't say anything about that!" God does not make any mistakes! The subject in detail may not be mentioned, but God's word relates to the subject at hand. Let us look at two subjects for example.

2 Timothy 3:16 NASB – (16) <u>All Scripture</u> is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; (17) so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. The key words are "<u>All Scripture</u>". The following question was presented to me at a bible study session. "What if the bible doesn't say anything about that? How would you address an issue if a person would say to you, that is not mentioned in the bible?" First, God does not make mistakes! The subject in detail may not be mentioned, but God's word relates to the subject at hand. Let us look at two subjects for example.

Alcohol – although the bible in detail does not say <u>do not drink</u> alcohol, the following scriptures give us the reasons why it is not good for us to drink alcohol. (Proverbs 20:1; 23:20-21; 23:29-35; 31:4-5; Ephesians 5:18 and Galatians 5:19-21). For those asking about people drinking wine in the bible as well as Jesus turning water into wine; the wine was not fermented. Read and review (Isaiah 65:8).

Masturbation – not mentioned in the bible. On the other hand this act cannot be committed without thought and this is known as lust! While the Bible nowhere explicitly states that masturbation is a sin, there is no question, however, as to whether the actions that lead to masturbation are sinful. Masturbation is nearly always the result of lustful thoughts, sexual stimulation, and/or pornographic images. It is these problems that need to be dealt with. If the sins of lust, immoral thoughts, and pornography are forsaken and overcome - the problem of masturbation will not be an issue. Many people struggle with guilt from having masturbated, when in reality, the thought or thoughts that led to masturbating are far more worthy of feeling guilty over. So since we now know this subject is in relations to lust, let's review what God has to say about lust.

Lust is one of the things of the world. *It's in the Bible*, I John 2:16-17, NIV. "For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

Lust itself is a sinful behavior and is often used as an excuse for further sin. *It's in the Bible*, Matthew 5:28, TLB. "But I say: Anyone who even looks at a woman with lust in his eye has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

The lustful man will pay the consequences. *It's in the Bible*, **Proverbs 6:25-29**, NIV. "Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes, for the prostitute reduces you to a loaf of bread, and the adulteress preys upon your very life. Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished."

God's grace enables us to say no to lust. *It's in the Bible*, Titus 2:11-12, NIV. "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."

Proverbs 1:7 NASB –(7) The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The thoughts that are taking place in our mind, is it a thought that God approves? Is it inappropriate thinking? Are you trying to justify sin? Can you image Jesus committing to the thoughts you are trying to justify (Philippians 4:8). Know this, God's understanding, knowledge and wisdom is nowhere equivalent to our way of thinking? It may not be in the bible as we expect, but an explanation is very much there.

SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 3:20

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK What Would Jesus Do ?