

# **S.O.H.L.**

## **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS**

*Pronounced "Soul"*

**February 16, 2015**

### **Straddling the Fence**

**GALATIANS 2:11-14 NKJV** – (11) Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; (12) for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. (13) And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. (14) But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before *them* all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

Notwithstanding Peter's character, yet, when Paul saw him acting so as to hurt the truth of the gospel and the peace of the church, he was not afraid to reprove him. When he saw that Peter and the others did not live up to that principle which the gospel taught, and which they professed, namely that by the death of Christ the partition wall between Jew and Gentile was taken down, and the observance of the law of Moses was no longer in force; as Peter's offence was public, he publicly reprovved him. There is a very great difference between the prudence of Paul, who bore with, and used for a time, the ceremonies of the law as not sinful, and the timid conduct of Peter, who, by withdrawing from the Gentiles, led others to think that these ceremonies were necessary.

Let us make up our mind whom we will serve whole heartedly. If it's God, let it be God! If it's Satan, let it be Satan.

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

JAMES 4:17

#### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

"Do not let us mistake necessary evils for good."