S.O.H.L.

(08/24/09)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

God's Children Are Not Exempt

Those who are chosen by Christ are trained to be disciples of Christ. And just because they are chosen does not mean they are exempted from the persecution or hatred of people. If you would read Matthew 5-7 (The sermon on the mount), you will discover Christ teaching many principals on life, but He is also letting His disciples know that there is no popularity when it comes to following Him. In other words, no exemption.

2 TIMOTHY 3:10-13 NLT (10) But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance. (11) You know how much persecution and suffering I have endured. You know all about how I was persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra—but the Lord rescued me from all of it. (12) Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (13) But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.

Paul makes a simple statement to Timothy about the above paragraph. "If God is for you, who can be against you?"

We the soldiers of Christ stand because we know what He went through just to show us how much He loves us. Allow God to mold you for the challenges, the good, the bad and the ugly. We don't have to be afraid because of what the writer said in 1 John 4:18 and 2 Timothy 1:7.

> **SCRIPTURE READING** MATTHEW 10:27-29

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Popularity comes from pleasing people, greatness comes from pleasing God...