

S.O.H.L.

(4/19/10)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

The Test

MATTHEW 7: 21-23 NLT - (21) "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who **actually do the will of my Father in heaven** will enter. **(22)** On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' **(23)** But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

I remember one time my class instructor informing me about an exam to be taken the following week for my final grade. This grade would determine whether or not I would pass the course. I remember not making any effort to study. My mind set was that I can do this without studying. I know I can do this and pass with flying colors, I was saying to myself. I was going through the motions at home pretending like I was studying, but I was not genuine about it. When my fellow students asked if I was ready, I would brag and lie to them about how hard I studied. Doing what was necessary to get by. When it was time for the test, everything I thought the test was going to be like was altered. I was lost and I totally blew the test or in today's terminology, "**I Flunked!**"

Many people actually believe they have this Christian walk of life figured out. Not living by the bible, but by their own standards. Only to meet Christ and find out you flunked the test! Oh yes, you were in the choir, or maybe you fed the homeless, or maybe you preached a good message, or maybe you did this or that, but Christ rejected them at the end. Why is this?

My brothers and sisters, the answer is very simple. **Obedience** was missing. Yes, all those works were done, but the life did not resemble Christ. He or she was going through the motions. Another term would be they were "playing church." Recognition was the key and personal recognition is a way we steal the glory of Christ. Christ cannot and will not condone sin! Study God's word and don't ever believe you got Him figured out. Just like me and the test, you may get the surprise of your life. Many acknowledge salvation, but the heart was never genuine because they lived a life of darkness.

Christ is **the** foundation, and every thing besides Christ is sand. Some build their hopes upon worldly prosperity; others upon an outward profession of religion. Let every one that names the name of Christ, depart from **all** sin.

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 5:9

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

No fear! No fear? Fear God!

April 1, 2010

