

S.O.H.L. (2/8/10)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

Unacceptable worship (Pt. 2)

WORSHIP – Reverence toward a divine being or supernatural power. The human response to the self revelation of the triune God. This includes (1) divine initiation in which God reveals Himself, His purposes, and His will; (2) a spiritual and personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ on the part of the worshipper; and (3) a response by the worshipper of adoration, humility, submission, and **obedience** in God.

TITUS 1:16 NASB - (16) They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

Last week we focused on unacceptable worship in the area of reverence or respect. This week we will focus on unacceptable worship in the area of **obedience**. Below is a list of men who heard from God, knew what God was capable of, received instructions from God, but chose to disobey Him.

Jonah - God told Jonah to go to the great city of Ninevah to preach, but Jonah didn't want to go. He tried to run away from God by going in the opposite direction. He got on a ship. God caused a storm to come and it nearly sank the ship. When the men on the ship discovered that it was Jonah's fault, they threw him overboard into the sea, and the sea became calm. God provided a large fish that swallowed Jonah. Jonah prayed to God from inside the fish and God heard him. He was in the fish for three days and three nights. The fish spit him out onto dry land. God again told him to go and preach to the people of Ninevah, and this time he obeyed. It was a very large city. Jonah told the people that they must repent or they would be destroyed. The people listened and believed. They were sorry for their sins and God forgave them. Jonah was angry. He didn't really care about the people of the city, but God loved them. **To identify the disobedience of Jonah, read the book.**

Solomon - There is not a more depressing and astonishing instance of human depravity in the sacred scriptures, than that here recorded. Solomon became a public worshipper of abominable idols! Probably he by degrees gave way to pride and luxury, and thus lost his relish for true wisdom. Nothing forms in itself a security against the deceitfulness and depravity of the human heart. Nor will old age cure the heart of any evil propensity. If our sinful passions are not crucified and mortified by the grace of God, they never will die of themselves, but will last even when opportunities to gratify them are taken away. Let him that thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall. We see how weak we are of ourselves, without the grace of God; let us therefore live in constant dependence on that grace. Let us watch and be sober: ours is a dangerous warfare, and in an enemy's country, while our worst foes are the traitors in our own hearts. **To identify the disobedience of Solomon, read 1 Kings 11.**

King Saul - The sentence of condemnation against the Amalekites had gone forth long before, Ex 17:14; De 25:19, but they had been spared till they filled up the measure of their sins. We are sure that the righteous Lord does no injustice to any. The remembering the kindness of the ancestors of the Kenites, in favor to them, at the time God was punishing the injuries done by the ancestors of the Amalekites, tended to clear the righteousness of God in this dispensation. It is dangerous to be found in the company of God's enemies, and it is our duty and interest to come out from among them, lest we share in their sins and plagues, Re v.18:4. As the commandment had been express, and a test of Saul's obedience, his conduct evidently was the effect of a proud, rebellious spirit. He destroyed only the refuse, that was good for little. That which was now destroyed was sacrificed to the justice of God. **To identify the disobedience of King Saul, read 1 Samuel 15.**

Cain - The offerings of Cain and Abel were different. Cain showed a proud, unbelieving heart. Therefore, he and his offering were rejected. Abel came as a sinner, and according to God's appointment, by his sacrifice expressing humility, sincerity, and believing obedience. Thus, seeking the benefit of the new covenant of mercy, through the promised Seed, his sacrifice had a token that God accepted. Abel offered in faith, and Cain did not, Heb 11:4. **Read Genesis 4 to discover the disobedience of Cain.**

Korah - Pride and ambition occasion a great deal of mischief both in churches and states. The rebels quarrel with the settlement of the priesthood upon Aaron and his family. Small reason they had to boast of the people's purity, or of God's favor, as the people had been so often and so lately polluted with sin, and were under the marks of God's displeasure. They unjustly charge Moses and Aaron with taking honor to themselves; whereas they were called of God to it. It will help to keep us from envying those above us, duly to consider how many there are below us. **Read Numbers 16 to discover the disobedience of Korah.**

David - Observe the occasions of David's sin; what led to it. 1. Neglect of his business. He tarried at Jerusalem. When we are out of the way of our duty, we are in temptation. 2. Love of ease: idleness gives great advantage to the tempter. 3. A wandering eye. He had not, like Job, made a covenant with his eyes, or, at this time, he had forgotten it. And observe the steps of the sin. See how the way of sin is down-hill; when men begin to do evil, they cannot just stop. Observe the aggravations of the sin. How could David rebuke or punish that in others, of which he was conscious that he himself was guilty? **Read 2 Samuel 11 to discover the disobedience of David.**

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 2:8

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

There are some things money can't buy, like salvation.

