

# S.O.H.L.

## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

*Pronounced "Soul"*

December 19, 2011

### The Greatest Gift

**ISAIAH 9:6-7 NLT** – (6) For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (7) His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

**"Black Friday"** is the day following Thanksgiving Day in the United States, traditionally the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. On this day, most major retailers open extremely early, often at 4 a.m., or earlier, and offer promotional sales to kick off the shopping season. What is "Black Friday?", "Black Friday" indicates the point at which retailers begin to turn a profit, or are "in the black". Many stores have begun to open at midnight for the first time, forcing employees to either go without enough sleep or miss all or part of Thanksgiving with family.

The objective for the customer on **"Black Friday"** is to purchase items that have been price slashed! These items are known as gifts. I am amazed at the attitude about **"Black Friday."** People will leave home in the middle of the night and arrive between one to two hours before the store opens. They will wait in line and in the cold temperatures. But when it comes to being in the Lord's house for worship, tardiness is no big deal. Many show up to God's house just in time or a few minutes late. Don't have the sense of urgency like they did in getting to the store.

Then once they are in the store, people become radical (worship). Fighting over who picked the item first. Talking evil to one another because they see you have the last of some item. It has been addressed that people have been trampled over and peppered sprayed to get to an item! These people are not putting on a front! They mean business!!!!!! In church, God gets the left overs. A lot of times the worship is dry or perhaps not genuine. Could it be, the worship in church has gotten boring to many and instead we want drama and debt?

Last, many are putting themselves in debt to please someone they don't like or possibly they don't like them. Keeping up with the **"JONESES."** The **"GREATEST GIFT"** has been offered, will you receive it? Will you tell the children about the **"GREATEST GIFT?"** Will it be formality or will you help raise this lost generation to know who was "born, has died and has resurrected?" The true reason for the season, **Christ**. That is the **"GREATEST GIFT."** **Merry Christmas to you and yours.**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 6:23

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

The "Greatest Gift", count the ways.

December 1, 2011

