

# S.O.H.L.

(09/1/08)

## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

*Pronounced "Soul"*

# *We Cannot Serve Both*

I received many responses this week while witnessing to people about Christ. Many who don't have a relationship with Christ. In other words, they are not even professing Christ! I started to address this in a meditation, but instead God has instructed me to address those who profess Christ, but their walk, priorities, submissive behavior, commitment and inconsistent ways are not pleasing to Him. My brothers and sisters, God has instructed me to tell you that "[we cannot serve both](#)" .

Today I want to compare our life to the lives of two men in the bible. Simon Peter and Judas Iscariot. Both men were disciples of Christ. Let me start with Peter.

Peter is told by Christ to follow Him. In this journey called ministry, we will see a lot of ourselves in Peter. Peter followed Christ, but at times Peter wanted to test Christ as if Christ didn't know what He was doing. Peter looked at Christ as if He was one of the boys in the hood. When he tested Christ he did things such as making the statement "[if it is you](#) command me to come to you on the water" - (The entire story) [Matthew 14:22-33](#) . "He attempts to [rebuke](#) Christ" - Christ suggested that Peter was being used as a mouthpiece for satan. (The entire story) [Matthew 16:21-23](#) . Last, we find Peter denying Jesus three times. - (The entire story) [Matthew 26:30-35](#) and [Matthew 26:69-75](#). It is a heartening thought that human weakness, when overcome and repented of, is no obstacle to true greatness. Peter's leadership and initiative have established him as one of Christianity's greatest heroes! A member of the TRUE, not the professed church.

Judas Iscariot also a disciple, was personally possessed by satan from the beginning. Don't miss this! He was going through the motions pretending he was about Christ. What motions? Imagine [everything](#) you see people doing who profess Christ, but their walk is contrary. The other disciples thought he was a man of God. He was a betrayer! Christ knowing all along, calls him out! (The entire story) [John 13:21-29](#) . Other references can be found in [Matthew 26:20-25](#) ; [Mark 14:10-11](#) and [Luke 22:47-53](#) . In other words he played the role, dressed the role and even talked the role but his heart was far from serving Christ. He was a betrayer. There is a lot of this same behavior going on in God's church today. We must be able to distinguish the two, but it's very important for us to know that [we cannot serve both!](#) Now keep this in mind, after Peter denied Jesus and experienced the shame and/or consequences that came with his actions, he genuinely repented. On the other hand, Judas Iscariot did not genuinely repent. He committed suicide by hanging himself [Matthew 27:3-5](#) and [Acts 1:18](#). In Christ there is NO DARKNESS!!!

Matthew 6:24 makes God's message clear " [we cannot serve both](#) "!!!

### SCRIPTURE READING

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As a child of God, are you living by principal or preference.

September 1, 2008

