

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

April 11, 2011

Making Your Word Dependable

NUMBERS 30:2 NLT – (2) A man who makes a vow to the LORD or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do.

DEUTERONOMY 23:21 NLT – (21) A man who makes a vow to the LORD or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do.

MATTHEW 5:33-37 NLT - (33) "You have also heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.' **(34)** But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, 'By heaven!' because heaven is God's throne. **(35)** And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. **(36)** Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. **(37)** Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

How often have we said I will do, but actually you don't? How often have you said I made that vow to you, not God? How often have we said we will do, but then expected something back? **Your word**, is it dependable? Will you go the extra mile to follow through on what you vowed? In the third passage above, Jesus tells us not to make vows at all. Why is that? Could it be that He knows we are not consistent in keeping our word? One will say, I had good intentions. Does this statement excuse you and me? One of the biggest problems with vows is our initial commitment to keep them. Whether it is in marriage, friendship or business, the question again, "**your word**," is it dependable?

Jesus tells us in verse **(37)**, to just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

SCRIPTURE READING

JAMES 5:19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"It's better to declare the truth and be rejected than to withhold the truth just to be accepted!"

