

# S.O.H.L.

## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

*Pronounced "Soul"*

July 22, 2013

# I'll Get You for That!

**REVENGE – an act or instance of retaliating in order to get even.**

**HEBREWS 10:26-30 NLT – (26)** Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. **(27)** There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. **(28)** For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **(29)** Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us. **(30)** For we know the one who said, "I will take revenge. I will pay them back." He also said, "The LORD will judge his own people."

**LEVITICUS 19:18 NLT – (18)** "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against a fellow Israelite, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

**ROMANS 12:17-21 NLT – (17)** Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. **(18)** Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. **(19)** Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD. **(20)** Instead, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads." **(21)** Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

It is tempting to try to take on the role of God and seek to punish those who we feel deserve it. What we must always recognize, however, is that because we are sinful creatures, it is *impossible* for us to take revenge with *pure motives*. He promised to avenge Himself upon them in His own timing and according to His own perfect and pure motives. We are to allow Him to judge rightly and pour out His divine payback against His enemies as He sees fit. As Christians, we are to follow the Lord Jesus' command -"love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (**MATTHEW 5:44**), leaving the vengeance to God.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

DEUTERONOMY 32:35

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind.

July 1, 2013

