

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

November 30, 2015

Being Absolutely Ungrateful!

JAMES 4:1-6 NKJV – (1) Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires* for pleasure that war in your members? (2) You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. (3) You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. (4) Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (5) Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"? (6) But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

While eating lunch one day, a young man and lady walking into McDonalds and sitting down across from me. I had ordered a hamburger and fries. The young lady noticed my cell phone in the holster on my side and asked if she could use it to call her mother. I consented and, over the course of the phone call, I overheard her threaten her mother and even curse her mother numerous of times. Her mother must have hung up the phone because the young lady had to call her back twice. After the third time, I requested my phone back from her. She tossed my phone on the table where I was sitting. The young man with her apologized for her behavior. She then tells the young man that she was hungry! He did not have any money, so I offered my hamburger and fries. She looked at me and refused my offer, stating that she wanted "chicken!" I ignored her and looked at the young man. In his eyes, I could see that he was hungry also. I offered my meal to him and he genuinely thanked me.

Ingratitude is an integral part of society. If you ask most people if they are ungrateful, their response would be a quick, "Of course not!" However, their attitude is so ingrained, they will openly admit—or even acknowledge—that they are ungrateful. But how can you tell if *you* are ungrateful? Are there things that identify ingratitude? And if so, what can you do about it?

"Ingratitude" is defined as: "Forgetfulness of, or poor return for, kindness received." It can also be defined as not appreciating or valuing what you have, or have been given. *Unexpressed* gratitude is also ingratitude! God called the Israelites an "evil congregation" for their sinful ingratitude. To God, an ungrateful attitude is sin—evil—which provokes Him to anger! Although God did not strike Israel with pestilence at that time or disinherit them, He did cause them to wander in the wilderness for 40 additional years, until those that demonstrated this attitude died! Their murmurings and unthankful attitude condemned them from ever seeing the Promised Land!

Most are familiar with the phrase, "Those that do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." This applies to the modern-day descendants of Israel—the United States, Britain, Australia and other democratic, primarily English-speaking people scattered throughout the world. These nations are foretold to relive history and experience many soon-to-come horrific events for much the same reasons as ancient Israel!

We are so thankless! We are so ungrateful! We so often fail to thank him and thank others he has put in our paths to sweeten our days! If you have understood your sin of thanklessness today, and you do nothing about, **NOT ONLY WILL YOU BE UNTHANKFUL, YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY TO BEING UNHOLY!!!** Why don't you take some time to give thanks... to God first, and then to some others you also need to thank?

SCRIPTURE READING
PHILIPPIANS 2:14

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

You don't preach the gospel to make yourself known, you preach the gospel to make Jesus known!