S.O.H.L. (01/26/09) <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul"

The Lord's Coming

We all have lost a loved one at one time or another and it can be emotionally difficult sometimes to bear what has actually taken place. They are no longer with us in this life, but why is it so hard for many to accept that we are destined for this life forever? Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 tells us that there is a time for everything in this life. What encouraging words would you share?

Let me share with you the encouraging words God has deposited in me from the book of 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NLT. It reads in our hearing (13) And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. (14) For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died.

(15) We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. (16) For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. (17) Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. (18) <u>So encourage each other with these words.</u>

There is hope for the believer! We will meet again and we will be free from sin. We will be housed in perfect bodies. Most of all we will live in the heaven with our Father who now arts in heaven forever and ever. Amen. Every story has an ending. Those who are saved have a happy ending that reads as follows John 14:1-4 NLT (1) "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. (2) There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? (3) When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. (4) And you know the way to where I am going."

SCRIPTURE READING DANIEL 12:2

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK Christians never see the last of each other.