

# **S.O.H.L.**

## **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS**

*Pronounced "Soul"*

**October 13, 2014**

# **In the Fire with Us**

**JAMES 5:7-11 NKJV** – (7) therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. (8) You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. (9) Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door. (10) As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. (11) Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end *intended by* the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

People are truly looking for answers! Some are giving up on God as if he doesn't care. He very much cares. Even the righteous Job wondered as we all do who suffer in this body, "Why is this happening to me?" Job searched for answers. He even admonishes this thought, "This one thing, therefore I said it, He destroys the perfect and the wicked" (**Job 9:22**). Job was puzzled. He could not understand why the righteous should suffer. "What have I done to deserve this?" Of course, after God's reproof of him, Job finally understood that he was wrong to think that righteous people are immune from suffering. Job learned that this earth is not heaven! Like the rain that falls from God's sky, infirmity also falls on "the just and the unjust" (**Matt. 5:45**).

Again, we must insist: What good is it to sit around wondering why "I" have this problem, rather than someone else? You have it! We need to point out at this time that one's emotional and mental stability or instability, as the case might be, has a great deal to do with the overall health of each of us. We must learn to cast aside these "weights that do so easily torment us" when it comes to our infirmities (**Heb. 12:1-2**). All of this "why me" business did Job no good. And guess what? It won't help you either! God, in His infinite wisdom, has preserved the matter of Job and his problems, so we might see that we too will suffer, but God is in it with us, even as He was with the three Hebrew boys.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

DANIEL 3:19-25

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

"In our faith we follow in someone's steps. In our faith we leave footprints to guide others. It's the principle of discipleship"