

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

May 30, 2011

Judging

I went to a funeral service of a man I knew who committed suicide and at the funeral the question was presented to me of whether or not the man would go to heaven. God place this answer quickly in my mind, "Judge Ye Not"! I came back at them with a question. Why do we rationalize a faith we do not know? Can you stand as an advocate for him? They looked at me and said, that was a serious sin he committed. I said to the brother who said that to me, "What did you do wrong today?" For sin is not measured in the eyes of God. I reminded them of the story of the thief on the cross next to Jesus. All the wrong that man had done and Christ simply told him after he spoke to Christ, "This day, you shall be with me in paradise"! The gentlemen left my presence puzzled and embarrassed. My brothers and sisters of the faith, do not judge one's salvation. Only God knows the motives of the heart.

MATTHEW 7:1-6 NLT - (1) "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. (2) For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. (3) "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? (4) How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? (5) Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye. (6) "Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.

JAMES 4:11-12 NLT – (11) Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God's law. But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. (12) God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?

Our lips must be governed by the law of kindness, as well as truth and justice and to break God's commands, is to speak evil of them, and to judge them, as if they laid too great a restraint upon us. We have the law of God, which is a rule to all; let us not presume to set up our own notions and opinions as a rule to those about us, and let us be careful that we be not condemned of the Lord. How worldly and scheming men are to leave God out of their plans? How vain it is to look for any thing good without God's blessing and guidance?

SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 14:13-23

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God is at work even when we can't see it.

May 1, 2011