## S.O.H.L. (1/11/10) <u>WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS</u> Pronounced "Soul" **Don't Go Back There!**

**EXODUS 14:11-13** NKJV – (11) Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? (12) Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." (13) And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

If you read verses 1-10, you will discover the Israelites are under panic because in verse 9 the Egyptians (led by Pharaoh), are pursuing them to bring them back to the environment where they were once slaves. The environment God has released them from through the leadership of Moses. Moses is leading them to the promise land. In verse 10 the Israelites can see the Egyptians coming and verse 11 they propose the following statement to Moses. "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? My brothers and sisters, let's define these three words (**Egypt, wilderness and promise land**) according to what they mean in the scriptures and how it applies to us today. Under the Egyptians, the Israelites were slaves! Under bondage! No peace! No relations with the true and living God! When Pharaoh let the Israelites go under the instructions of God, they were no longer in Egypt, but they were not at the promise land either. The Israelites were between the two. This area is known as the wilderness. Though the wilderness was a struggle and the Israelites experienced many growing pains, God was always with them. The promise land was a land flowing with milk and honey. A land strictly for the Israelites! A bless land, a land where God would dwell with His people. No slavery! No bondage! Nothing but peace!

My brothers and sisters in the faith, have you made New Years resolutions and asked God to intervene? You asked Him to help you through this relationship with that significant other that is not your blessing. Are you experiencing homosexuality, lesbian or ungodly sexual relationships and you asked God to get you out of it? Maybe your kids are disobedient to you because they see the bad examples you have demonstrated. Maybe that sister or brother you don't get along with because they mistreat you and you want to just release your mind to them! You pick the scenario. Now, don't you want to go back to your old ways of doing things (Egypt) because that's your way of surviving? A slave to ungodly habits! But then you say to yourself "No I can't do that", because you are trying to do what is right (going through the wilderness of life)! Trying to glorify God by being obedient (the promise land).

Hang in there my brothers and sisters and whatever you do "<u>Don't Go Back There</u>!" God will fulfill His promise! He will help you get to where you should be! Remember, He said He will not let us handle anymore than what we can handle (wilderness). So therefore, what you are going through in the wilderness of life is a necessity to prepare you for the ultimate. Words of encouragement: **EXODUS 14:11-13** NKJV – **(13)** And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians (**problems**) whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

Remember. Satan's aim is to take you back to your Egypt! Whatever you do "Don't Go Back There!"

SCRIPTURE READING EXODUS 14:30-31

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK Let Jesus calm your troubled waters.