

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

August 11, 2014

Kindness

HEBREWS 13:2 NIV – (2) Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

When I read this verse, I can't help but think of **Matthew 25:35**: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me ..." Over the years as a believer, I've heard dozens of mysterious stories telling of potential angel "sightings." I imagine you've heard a few as well. So remember, when you stop to show brotherly love and kindness to a stranger in need, not only are you serving the Lord Jesus, you just might be ministering to an angelic being.

"Entertain": The second grace needing development was the extension of love to those who were strangers (**Romans 12:13 and 1 Timothy 3:2**). Hospitality in the ancient world often included putting up a guest overnight or longer. This is the hardest to do when experiencing a time of persecution. The Hebrews would not know whether a guest would prove to be a spy or a fellow believer being pursued.

"One incentive the author uses to encourage love and hospitality is that "some have entertained angel unawares". For example, Abraham (**Genesis 18:1-3**) and Lot (**Genesis 19:1-2**) were unaware that their guests were angels at the time they received them. Kindness and care must be taken so as not to read too much into this statement.

We should, nonetheless, show hospitality to the needy, for it will benefit us as well as them when it is done as to the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING

ACTS 20:35

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A dusty bible leads to dirty lives.

