

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

March 18, 2013

I Am Not Ashamed!

ROMANS 1:16-17 NKJV – (16) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. **(17)** For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Derrick was a teacher at a local high school. The parents of his students loved Derrick, and his principal always complimented him on how well he controlled his classroom. Many of the teachers looked up to him and often asked him for advice. Derrick liked his co-workers but not close to any of them. During lunch break, he often sat in a corner of the room rather than at a table with other teachers. Derrick, a Christian and a regular church attendee, was increasingly uncomfortable with the discussions that took place in the teachers' break room.

Off-color jokes were frequently told by some of his co-workers and lately, "the church" had become the brunt of each joke. Christian beliefs and practices resulted in side-splitting laughter. Derrick felt that he should say something, but he was afraid that the group, who thought so highly of him, might become resentful.

Taking a stand for what you believe is never easy and Christians are not exempt. God understands that His people are objects of persecution, but He can strengthen us to take a stand in Jesus' name. Let us also keep in mind that we cannot represent God with a strong foundation if we are participants, even inactive participants, of the world's behavior. We must let the people know who we are in Spirit and in speech.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 26:26-28

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A man should never be ashamed to own that he has been in the wrong, which is but saying... that he is wiser today than yesterday.

March 1, 2013

