

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

June 6, 2016

Restoration thru "Scripture"

This month will be dedicated to restoration. We fall down, but we get up! How do we do this? By following this simple plan that God has for your life.....

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 NKJV – (16) All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **(17)** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

At the time Paul wrote "all scripture is inspired of God, and is profitable", the statement referred to the Old Testament. Paul probably had no idea that his writings would become part of the New Testament.

At its worst, saying that the law—or any portion of the Bible—is "done away" could be spiritually suicidal. At the very least, it hinders growth. A person that follows God's word selectively will not be thoroughly furnished to do all good works. It is similar in principle to a student attending school but choosing to ignore certain, selected sections of the textbook on the basis of his own perception of what *he* needs.

In fact, there is *nothing* extraneous in God's Word. We are to live by **every** Word of God ([Matthew 4:4](#)). If God is all-wise and all-powerful, if everything that He does is in love, and if He is working out a purpose that is in our best interest (that we might live forever with Him), why would God present a body of laws—which Jesus said would never pass away until all is fulfilled ([Matthew 5:18](#)) and which Paul wrote is spiritual, holy, just, and good ([Romans 7:12](#))—if God did not intend that its letter and spirit be used for all time? God does not do anything without meaning. The law is included in Scripture for the sake of Christians.

When these verses were written, Paul had just given Timothy a heads up on how he would be able to handle the challenges he was yet to face. Paul told him, "Ground yourself in the Bible, for out of it will come the strength to do these things." We should not limit our understanding to only the words of the Bible but also embrace the spirit and inspiration behind each verse. Of course, God would be with Timothy if he followed Paul's instructions, however, the constant inspiration and help that Timothy would need to guide him would come out of Scripture. By knowing scripture, Timothy would have a constant reminder of God's truth and grow in it. Timothy would be corrected by the word, instructed by it, reproofed by it. All of these things are necessary to mold the faithful minister. The Bible is where his nose should be at all times, so that he has the proper foundation, motivation, inspiration, and resources for everything he does.

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 40:8

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God wants full custody - not just a weekend visit!