

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

April 30, 2012

Lets Make A Deal

MATTHEW 4:1-10 NLT - (1) Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (2) And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. (3) Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." (4) But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" (5) Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, (6) and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" (7) Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" (8) Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. (9) And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

Christ died and rose from the grave. It is because of Him that we have eternal life (if you are saved). I say this to say, there are no deals to be made. Christ has established what is! Satan also has work to do. He wants to make deals with us as well. Will you negotiate? There are three important points I want you to get about the story above.

- 1) In the previous chapter before chapter 4, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. To be baptized is to be "identified with Christ." Many of us have been baptized, but are being identified with Satan. In other words, making deals with enemy. The Bible says in **MATTHEW 3:17 NKJV** – (17) And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Self evaluation time, what Is God saying about "you?"
- 2) Satan is making everything "look and sound good", but Jesus knows the truth and every time Satan talks, Jesus says, "It is Written!" Are we telling Satan, "It is written or are we saying to him, "Lets make a deal?"
- 3) Satan knows scripture well and uses it very much incorrectly. Do you know when the enemy is using the scriptures incorrectly or do we fall in the category of **2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4?** Are we making deals with the enemy? Living in unrighteousness contently? This is the question for the week.

My brothers and sisters in the faith, don't be deceived, God is not making deals with anyone. We have a choice. Tell Satan, no deals, now flee!!!! Or simply tell him what Jesus said in **MATTHEW 4:10 NKJV** - (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

SCRIPTURE READING

2 JOHN 7-10

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

No Limits, no boundaries.



May 1, 2012