

S.O.H.L.

(05/12/08)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

A Mind Not Made

Good morning my brother and sisters. Last week I talked with you about the characteristics of one whose mind is made up to serve God whole heartedly. This week the Holy Spirit has led me to talk to you about the one who claims their minds are made up, but their character doesn't always display it. A person like this is described as being **unstable** or **indecisive**.

Unstable - Not firm or fixed. Not steady in action or movement. Apt to move, sway or fall.

In **Luke 22:31-32**, Jesus promised to pray for Simon Peter who was probably the most unstable of all the disciples. Since that is the way Jesus treated Simon Peter, we know that He will treat all of us who are unstable in the same manner, because He loves us the same. Keep this in mind, that there are grave warnings in the bible over those who are not firm in their resolve to follow God. One good example is the first king of Israel, Saul. Although Saul started out as a timid man with great ability who did many good things, he ended up as a broken and lost man. Read about him in I Samuel.

In **2 Timothy 3:1-5**, Paul gives a descriptive list of behaviors that describes our society, unfortunately, the behavior of many Christians. These people are settling for comfort without commitment, giving into society's pressures and claiming that they are standing up against evil by living as God said they should although they really are not. They have the "act" or appearance of being religious which includes, going to church or bible study (but not truly committed), knowing Christian doctrine (but without application), using Christian cliché's and following a community of Christian tradition. Such practices can make a person look good, but if the inner attitudes of belief, love and worship are lacking, the outer appearance is meaningless! Paul warns us not to be deceived by people who only appear as Christians. It may be difficult to distinguish them from true Christians at first, but their daily behavior or ways of commitment will give them away. Paul makes it clear that the characteristics described in **2 Timothy 3:2-5** are unmistakable!! These people are living in the flesh and are wearing a mask at the same time. Why? Their minds are not truly made up. Therefore, they become unstable, indecisive or for a better term, "it depends on how I feel" type people.

A person with divided loyalty is not completely convinced that God's way is best. They treat God's word like any human advice and retains the option to disobey. He vacillates between allegiance to subjective feelings, the world ideas and God's commands. Paul describes this person as being double minded.

There is hope for all men and women. However, unless you are following God (whole heartedly), even with your great abilities you will fail.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 KINGS 18:21

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Why should the devil fight for who he already has.



May 1, 2008