

HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

The Book of James – Part 10

Weep and Howl!

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our study of the Book of James. Our topic today: Weep and Howl!

Scripture Theme Song: “Bless the LORD” – Psalm 103:1-4

Intro: James warns us about 3 dangers.

- 1) The danger of being corrupted by riches
 - a) James 5:1
 - i) Are riches inherently evil?
 - ii) Deuteronomy 8:18
 - iii) Some wealthy individuals were devoted followers of God in the OT, and devoted disciples of Jesus in the NT. Examples?
 - b) What are the signs that riches have corrupted a person?
 - i) James 5:2-3 – you heaped up treasure
 - ii) 1 Timothy 6:10 – obsessed with money
 - c) What stories in the Bible remind us of the corrupting influence of riches?
 - i) 1 Samuel 25:2-11
 - ii) Luke 12:16-21
 - iii) John 12:4-6; Matthew 26:14-15
 - iv) Luke 18:22-23
 - d) How can we avoid the corrupting influence of riches?
 - i) Malachi 3:8-10 – recognize that all wealth is a gift from God
 - ii) Give more away. Luke 19:8
- 2) The danger of turning a deaf ear to the cries of the oppressed
 - a) James 3:4
 - b) Why do many ignore the cries of the oppressed?
 - c) What passages of Scripture remind us that God cares about the needs of the poor and oppressed?
 - i) Exodus 3:3 Leviticus 19:9-10,13
 - d) What stories in the ministry of Jesus demonstrate that Jesus was attentive to the cries of the needy and oppressed?
 - i) Luke 18:35-43
 - ii) Luke 5:12-13
 - iii) Mark 10:13-16 – not financial but emotional
 - e) How can we become more sensitive to the needs of the poor and oppressed around us?
- 3) The danger of taking advantage of the weak
 - a) James 5:6
 - b) Why is it wrong to take advantage of people?
 - i) Psalm 68:5
 - ii) James 1:27
 - c) What is the difference between being a shrewd businessperson and taking advantage of people who are weak or in need?
 - d) What teaching of Jesus can help us to avoid taking advantage of others? Matthew 7:12