Proverbs Discussions

Just Scales

Proverbs 11:1, Selected Scriptures

- 1. Introduction: Proverbs 11:1.
 - A. The possession of differing weights by a sole person is a sign of wickedness and ill intention (Deut 25:13; Prov. 16:11).
 - B. "Abominable weights and measures, which represent all forms of fraud and deceit, are concrete expressions of the abstractions "evil" and "sin.
- 2. Small Group Questions:
 - A. Matthew 7:1-5. (All Small Groups)
 - I. Q1: Compare Matthew 7:1-5 with John 7:24. What is the positive prescription for making judgments?
 - II. Q2: Describe in your own words was Jesus forbidding in Matthew 7:1 (He warns about this same thing in v.2, and He gives an example of it in vs.3-5)?
 - III. Q3: Think of and share about a time when you rendered judgment on a situation differently than you would have wanted someone else to do if the roles were reversed? (example: being cut off in traffic, wearing or not wearing a mask in public in 2024, etc)
 - B. Romans. 2:1-16. (For some small groups)
 - I. Who are the two groups that Paul is talking about? (hint: look at Romans 2:9, 10, 14, 17 to see these two groups)
 - II. What problem is Paul pointing out in Romans 2:1-3?

- III. Look at verses 9-13. What is the standard of judgment that God will use?
- IV. Thinking about the flow of Chapter 2, what important emphasis is Paul making as summarized in verse 11?
- C. James 2:1-13. (For some small groups)
 - I. Describe the situation that James is talking about in your own words (mainly look at verses 1-4).
 - II. What are some of the ways in which this sinful partiality is described (see vs.1, 4, 9).
 - III. James 2:10 is a common verse to memorize. Does looking at the context of James' argument have any impact upon how you have thought of this verse in the past? Explain.
 - IV. Looking at verses 12-13, what is the primary type of action in view?
 - V. How can we practically avoid the sinful favoritism in our judgment (see vs.12-13), and might this look like in a situation that you have been in?
- D. Job 13:3-12. (For Large Group Discussion)
- I. What is Job's evaluation of his friends' assessment of his situation (Job. 13:3-5)?
- II. What would be an example of doing what Job's friends did (vs.6-8)?
- III. How does Job believe that God will respond to people who "show partiality for Him" (v.8)?