

The Danger of Rejoicing When Others Fall

This lesson explores God's displeasure with nations that rejoiced or sought to benefit from Israel's downfall. It emphasizes the importance of showing mercy and compassion towards others, even enemies, rather than celebrating their misfortunes. Ezekiel 25 & 26 shows prophecies against various nations to illustrate how God judges those who take pleasure in the suffering of His people, drawing parallels to modern-day attitudes and the need for Christians to maintain a merciful spirit.

Scripture Reference:

Ezekiel 25 & 26

Proverbs 24:17-18

Obadiah 1:8-14

Key Takeaways:

- God is displeased with those who rejoice at the downfall of others, especially His people.
- We should show mercy and compassion, not celebrate when misfortune befalls others.
- God judges nations and individuals who seek to benefit from others' calamities.
- Our reaction to others' suffering should be one of pity and prayer, not gloating.
- Withholding mercy from others can lead to a loss of mercy for ourselves.

- God is aware of the thoughts and intentions of all people and nations.

Practical Applications:

- ☐ This week, when you hear about someone's misfortune, practice offering a silent prayer for their well-being and recovery.
- ☐ Identify someone you've had conflict with or dislike. Commit to praying for the LORD to bless them and for their spiritual growth.
- ☐ Reflect on moments in your own life where GOD may have disciplined you for wrong attitudes. Share that moment with someone if you see them rejoicing over someone else's misfortune.

Gracious and merciful LORD, help us to cultivate hearts of mercy and compassion. Forgive us for times we've rejoiced at others' misfortunes. Give us tender hearts and the strength to pray for our enemies and to respond with love, even when it's difficult. May our attitudes and actions always bring glory to You thru CHRIST JESUS our LORD & SAVIOR. Amen.