

**INTRODUCTION: COME NOW...** (Jms.4:13&5:1; Ps.50:1f; 7f&16f; see Ex.3:10; Is.1:18; 1Sam.22:11,12)

**I. FATHERLY CORRECTION OF THE IGNORANT** (4:13-17; see Ps.50:7f; Heb.12:5f)

**A. PRESUMPTUOUS PLANS** (4:13,16; see 3:13f; 4:1f; 1Jn.2:16; Prov.27:1)

**B. FORGETFUL SELF-ESTEEM** (4:14; see Ps.39:5; Eccl.1:2,14; Lk.12:16f)

**C. GRACIOUS CORRECTION** (4:15; Acts 18:21; see Mt.6:9f; Eph.1:11)

**D. FORCEFUL CONCLUSION** (4:16,17; see 4:10; 2Chr.7:14; Mt.6:9f)

**II. KINGLY REBUKE OF THE WICKED** (5:1-6; see Ps.50:16f)

**A. LOSS ALREADY BEGUN** (5:1-3; 4:9; Lk.6:24; Mt.6:19f; 10:39a; see 2Chr.26:18)

**B. UNJUST** (5:4; see Lev.19:13,18; Dt.24:15a; Is.10:1f; Habb.2:6; Mal.3:5; Mk.12:40 vs Jms.1:27)

**C. UNMERCIFUL** (5:5,6; see Dt.15:9a; Prov.21:13; Amos 6:1f; Lk.12:21f,33; 16:19f; Rom.1:31; vs Jms.2:15,16)

**D. FORCEFUL CONCLUSION** (5:4b,6b; see Dt.15:9b; 24:15b; Ps.9:12f)

**III. ANSWER THE KING'S SUMMONSES!** (Jms.4:13&5:1; Ps.50:1f; 7f&16f; see Ex.3:10; Is.1:18)

**A. THE USEFULNESS OF THE SCRIPTURES** (2Tm.3:16; see Jms.4:13f&5:1f; Ps.119:97)

**B. HUMBLE YOURSELVES TO ACCEPT INSTRUCTION** (4:13f; see 3:10,6f; e.g., Prov,*wisdom*;  
Eccl.4:13; Jms.3:13f; see 1Pt.5:5f; 1Tm.4:16)

**C. SUBMIT YOUR PLANS TO THE LORD IN PRAYER** (4:13f; 2Chr.7:14; Mt.6:9f; Acts 13:2,3 /A.C.T.S.)

**D. HUMBLE YOURSELVES TO ACCEPT REBUKE** (5:1f; 3:10,9; Amos, *prophets*; see Mic.6:8; Mt.23:23)

**E. DO JUSTICE: PAY WHAT YOU OWE IN FULL AND ON TIME** (5:4; Dt.24:15; Pr.3:27; Rom.13:7,8)

**F. LOVE MERCY: GIVE WHAT IS NEEDED** (5:5,6a; 1:27; 2:14f; see Lk.6:38; 2Cor.9:6; Tt.2:14; 3:14)

**G. KING JESUS SUMMONS YOU TO COME DOWN FROM YOUR ARROGANCE!** (5:1f /Lk.19:2f)

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE, FAMILY AND SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP**

*Suggestions: Don't feel obliged to use every question or every part of every question. Go through and discuss those that are of greatest **interest** to you. Then consider going back and discussing those that may also be **useful**, including those that may have seemed a bit difficult. In all questions, keep the outline before to identify entries relevant to the question and to look up appropriate verses listed.*

1. What most surprised, puzzled or impressed you from this sermon?
2. What was most helpful? Why? How will you apply it in your daily life?
3. Do you obey the Lord's summonses to you? How so?
4. Have you experienced His words of fatherly correction? How so?
5. Have you experienced His words of kingly rebuke? How so?
6. What is your routine for planning and doing your work?
  - a. How is your fleshly arrogance evident in this?
  - b. How is spiritual humility evident in this?
  - c. How has this sermon helped you in this?
7. Do you see reasons to weep and howl, perhaps in connection with the current economic crisis?
8. Do you see *injustice* in yourself? in our congregation? at your work? in our community? in our governments? in our culture? What does repentance look like in each case?
9. Do you see *mercilessness* in yourself? in our congregation? at your work? in our community? in our governments? in our culture? What does repentance look like in each case?
10. Is there anyone crying out to God to be delivered from your injustice or mercilessness?(!)
11. Are you able to accept instruction from those whom the Lord has given you to teach you? Why or why not? If not, what should you do?
12. How do you need to humble yourself in order to love God and your neighbor?
13. How do we as a congregation need to humble ourselves in order to love God and our neighbor?