

## Rebellion and Redemption – Part 7

### Jesus' teachings and the great controversy

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on Rebellion and Redemption, studying the theme of the Great Controversy between good and evil. Our topic today: Jesus' teachings and the great controversy

Scripture Theme Song: I will praise You, O LORD (Ps. 9:1-2)

- 1) Finding rest for our souls
  - a) Matthew 11:28-30
  - b) Why is rest for our souls so needed in this sin-ravaged world?
  - c) Why is it important to see Sabbath as a gift of rest from a loving Creator rather than a legal obligation? Exodus 20:8-11; Genesis 2:1-3; Mark 2:27.
  - d) Share a time when you really needed rest for your soul and you found that rest in Jesus.
- 2) The great controversy over each life
  - a) Matthew 13:3-8 – How do you see the great controversy occurring in this parable of Jesus?
  - b) Matthew 13:19-22 – What warnings and encouragement do you find in this explanation of the parable?
  - c) Why does Satan try to snatch the word from us? Why doesn't he allow us to make our own choice?
  - d) How have you witnessed this struggle in your own life?
- 3) The importance of building on the Rock
  - a) Matthew 7:24-27
  - b) Are the storms of life just a normal part of living on this broken planet or specific attacks of Satan?
  - c) Does building on the rock imply we are saving ourselves? John 3:16
  - d) How do we build our lives on Jesus, the Rock of our salvation?
- 4) Sharing rather than judging
  - a) In this great controversy, what special assignment is given to each one of us? Matthew 5:13-16
  - b) While we may observe many faults in those around us, why is it important not to judge others? Matthew 7:1-5
  - c) How can we confront sin without being judgmental? Ephesians 5:29-32
  - d) Matthew 5:38-42, 43-48 If we follow these teachings of Jesus, what impact will our behavior have on those around us?
- 5) Jesus will always be Immanuel, God with us
  - a) Matthew 28:20 – How do you respond to this promise of Jesus?
  - b) How is this promise fulfilled while Jesus is in heaven and we are still on planet earth? John 14:15-18
  - c) Share a time when you were particularly aware of the presence of Jesus.
  - d) What other promises of Scripture remind us that the Lord will always be with us?
    - i) Hebrews 13:5-6
    - ii) Isaiah 41:10