Exodus Cry: Ending Modern-Day Slavery

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Introduction

"If to be feelingly alive to the sufferings of my fellow-creatures is to be a fanatic, I am one of the most incurable fanatics ever permitted to be at large." —William Wilberforce

Video: http://exoduscry.com/awareness/media/the-call-to-battle/

Nefarious: Merchant of Souls—a documentary on the slave trade. Nefarious means "utterly immoral or wicked."

The Cold Facts of Modern Slavery

From www.NefariousDocumentary.com/learn-more

- A child is trafficked every 30 seconds. UNICEF
- The average age of entry into commercial sex slavery in the United States is 13 years old. United States Department of Justice
- Human Trafficking occurs in 161 out of 192 countries. The United Nations
- Pornography is a 96 billion dollar per year industry. The Internet Filter Review
- Up to 96% of women in prostitution want to escape but feel they can't. United Labor Organization
- Human Trafficking is a 32 billion dollar per year industry. The United Nations
- In some countries it is estimated that 70% of men purchase sex. Victor Malarek; The Johns
- Over 27 million people are enslaved around the world. This is more than double the number of Africans enslaved during the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. Kevin Bales; *Free the Slaves*

The Commitment of an Incurable Fanatic

From www.NefariousDocumentary.com/take-action/

1. Prayer

Slavery is first and foremost a form of spiritual oppression that must be addressed through spiritual means. Wilberforce once said, "Of all things, guard against neglecting God in the secret place of prayer." Through prayer we can defeat the spiritual forces of darkness that today enslave over 27 million people worldwide. Pray once per day for the ending of sex trafficking.

2. Awareness

Critical to Wilberforce's anti-slavery efforts was an aggressive grass-roots awareness campaign that sought to sway public opinion. To invoke the cultural heart-level change required to end sexual exploitation, we must first expose it. Abraham Lincoln said, "Public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed." Tell at least 10 other people about this issue and about Nefarious: Merchant of Souls.

3. Giving

In addition to his spiritual and physical labors, Wilberforce was a philanthropist. In other words, he put his

money where his mouth was. Money is a critical component in driving the sex trade and it is a critical component needed to end it. Give \$3 per week towards Exodus Cry's efforts to end sex trafficking and restore the victims of this grave injustice.

10 key ways to take action against modern-day slavery:

From www.ExodusCry.com/action

1. Pray

"Thy Kingdom Come." God has ordained His kingdom to operate in conjunction with human participation. He will avenge our cries and bring speedy justice when we cry out day and night for these women and children. Join our prayer initiatives »

2. Compassion

Open your heart. We must open our heart to the plight of the oppressed and allow ourselves to be moved by the things that move the heart of God.

3. Stand in Purity

Lust fuels slavery. Abolition begins with a commitment to personal purity; otherwise, we will find ourselves in partnership with the very spirit that keeps the sex trade booming. Make the purity covenant.

4. Spread The Word

Become informed. Tell others in your sphere of influence about the realities of modern day slavery.

5. Volunteer

Be a servant. Offer your time, talents, and passions to organizations in your community who serve victims of trafficking.

6. Watch

Slavery thrives in shadows. Ask the Lord to shed light on the underworld of trafficking and give you eyes to see. You can play a vital role in keeping watch in your community. To report Human Trafficking call the national hotline at 1-888-3737-888 (National Human Trafficking Resource Center)

7. Reach

Touch one life. Women and children are being sexually exploited in just about every city on earth. If you look for them, you will find them. Whether it's a woman being sold on the street, or dancing in a strip club; get to know them, love them through their struggles, and believe with them for the full restoration that comes through Christ.

8. Speak Up

Be a voice for the voiceless. Let your voice be heard by contacting local politicians and community leaders about your concern for those victimized in the commercial sex trade. Petition them to implement the Swedish model of combating trafficking and prostitution. Find out more about the Swedish model

9. Adopt a Child

Who will father the fatherless? 90% of women in domestic prostitution were at one point in the foster care system. Trafficking is an exploitation of vulnerability. Adopting a child who is lost in the foster care system can prevent another young life from slipping into the tentacles of forced prostitution and human trafficking.

10. Invest

Sow into Freedom. Join the abolitionist movement by giving financially to ministries who partner with the heart of Jesus to bring liberty to the captives and healing to the broken.

Jesus and the Oppressed

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NIV) ¹ The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and

release from darkness for the prisoners, ² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

Revelation 19:11-12 (NIV) ¹¹I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV) ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 10:1-4 (NIV) ¹ Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, ² to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people, making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless. ³ What will you do on the day of reckoning, when disaster comes from afar? To whom will you run for help? Where will you leave your riches? ⁴ Nothing will remain but to cringe among the captives or fall among the slain. Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away, his hand is still upraised.

Isaiah 11:1-5 (NIV) ¹ A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord-- ³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Psalms 140:12 (NIV) I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.

Matthew 25:31-46 (NIV) ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' ³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? ⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' ⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and

you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ⁴⁴ "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' ⁴⁵ "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ⁴⁶ "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

One Thing and Works

Luke 10:41-42 (NIV) ⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Isaiah 58:9-11 (NIV) ⁹ Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, ¹⁰ and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. ¹¹ The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

James 1:26-27 (NIV) ²⁶ If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

James 2:14-19 (NIV) ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder.

Justice Begins with Prayer

Luke 18:1-8 (NIV) ¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Proverbs 31:8-9 (NIV) 8 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

To Know God

Jeremiah 22:15-16 (NIV) ¹⁵ "Does it make you a king to have more and more cedar? Did not your father have food and drink? He did what was right and just, so all went well with him. ¹⁶ He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the Lord.

Jesus: Helping Poor wasn't a Question

Matthew 6:1-4 (NIV) ¹ "Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Treasures in Heaven

How do we store up treasure in Heaven? Only by giving to the poor, according to the scriptures that use this phrase:

Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV) ¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 19:21 (NIV) Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Luke 12:32-34 (NIV) ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.