



James 5:1-12

A Proper Perspective

James 5:1-6

“Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you.”

The Deception of Wealth

- 3 Sins: Hoarding, Extravagance, & Injustice
- The sin is not having money, but loving money
- “Fattening yourselves in a day of slaughter”—not keeping their eyes on God’s clock
- Not showing a caring ministry to the needy

The Deception of Wealth

How does this apply to us today?

- Do we have things that are wasted?
- James gives us a picture of the pits we could easily fall into
- Ask in humility how God wants us to use the resources that He has entrusted us with
- Give out of an overwhelming love for Him

James 5:7-9

“Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You, too, be patient and stand firm because the Lord’s coming is near. Don’t grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!”

James 5:7-9

- Expectant, active patience—waiting on the Lord's coming & preparing for it
- Example of the farmer waiting for the crop upon which his livelihood depends
- Danger of the tongue to spoil it all with grumbling and complaining.

50-20 principle (Charles Swindoll)

- Genesis 50:20 “You intended to harm me but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”
- We do not need 20-20 vision, we need 50-20 vision
- Especially important for those facing persecution, also important for us

James 5:10-12

“Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job’s perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple “Yes” or “No.” Otherwise you will be condemned.”

James 5:10-12

- Patience that endures under trials
- 2 Examples: Prophets & Job
- The prophets saw behind the things happening on earth to the hand of God
- Job- a lesson in humility and faith when we don't understand

James 5:7-12

The Type of Patience:	The Example of Patience:	The Danger of the Tongue:
Expectant Patience	The Farmer	Grumbling & Complaining
Enduring Patience	The Prophets & Job	Swearing Oaths

Conclusion

A Proper Perspective

- How we spend our money (God's money)
- How we wait upon the Lord (His timing is not our own)
- How we speak
- How we endure under trials

Sources:

Allberry, Sam. James For You: Showing you how real faith looks in real life (God's Word For You). The Good Book Company. Kindle Edition.

Moo, Douglas J.. James (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.

J.A. Motyer. *The Message of James: The Bible Speaks Today*. Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1985.

Swindoll, Charles R.. Insights on James, 1 & 2 Peter (Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary Book 13). Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.. Kindle Edition.

Wright, N.T.. The Early Christian Letters for Everyone (The New Testament for Everyone). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.