

James - Practical Living

12 - Reap 2 Sow

09:55 am 5 Min. Count Down - VIDEO

10:00 am **LIVE Worship –

10:25 am **LIVE In House Welcome –

WELCOME to The Peak CC

Welcome our Church Online Platform –

We are so glad you could join us as we worship the Lord & expound on His Word.

If this is your 1st time or perhaps you've been with us before but haven't engaged... Please fill out

***Online Connect Card * -> RightNow Media**

10:30 AM ****Announcements Video** - Tithing

10:32am LIVE SHOT – Welcome - Pastor *Self Intro* -

The Peak Journey: 9am Sundays @ Balcony - Breakfast & Talk

Sunday School: 1st things 1st 9am Sundays 2nd floor.

Life Groups Home Groups 7pm Mon Nights - 7/3/2023 - Sam Awuku

Men's Fellowship 8:30 am 1st & 3rd Saturday - Breakfast

AUGUST 1st Next Tuesday NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Puglie park 4pm

STAY TUNED : BAPTISM - Sign-ups - setting date at Lake Welch

The PEAK Journey next outreach being planned

Pre-planning HARVEST FEST RIVERFRONT Oct 26th.

Praying, fasting, volunteering. - please reach out evelin@

VIDEO - Sermon Bump / Intro *The Book of James

Recap: Empty Grave: How Then Shall We Live? lessons learned -

From Pain to Purpose

From Death to Life - 1st Fruits

Be About it

Words Have Power (twice)

Up & Down Wisdom

L'eggo My EGO - The Stealth of PRIDE

To Judge or NOT to Judge

Commission, Omission, Submission

app: Plug - giving platform - dog days of summer - continued support

TODAY: False confidence we place in wealth.. money.

Proverbs 11:28 NKJV says

**28 He who trusts in his riches will fall,
But the righteous will flourish like foliage.**

The riches of this world are fading away... NOTHING is guaranteed in life.

**Money can't buy you LOVE... Money is subject to the laws of the world's economy..
One day it's there.... & then it's NOT.**

Spend on lawyers... still get convicted.... Spend it on Dr.'s Still die.

In fact... although necessary to drive purpose, to build communities, We know that

1 Timothy 6:10

**For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from
the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**

its offshoots are “temptation, a snare, lusts, destruction, perdition.”

**18 “Therefore hear the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the
kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away
what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. 20 But he
who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and**

immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and *the cares of this world* and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. 23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

That phrase, the deceitfulness of riches, has always intrigued me. Money is just a thing, how could it be deceitful? Or perhaps a better question, what exactly are the lies money tells?

A couple of the lies that riches tell....

Money is the Goal of Life

The world screams this philosophy in our faces daily. Every commercial, every celebrity, a greater percentage of our pop songs - Hip-Hop, every new car our neighbor purchases dangles that carrot of “Success” before our eyes.

If we don't pay careful attention, before we know it we may find our days consumed with doing whatever it takes to get that next raise, promotion, with comparing

ourselves to others, seeking the next “upgrade”, and with constantly asking ourselves “have I made it?”

Matthew 16:26 NKJV

For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Money is a gift, it is a stewardship, and how we use it matters. But, *it is not the ultimate goal of life.*

Setting our focus on acquiring earthly riches is pathetically short-sighted in light of eternity. We aren't to be anxious about money or the things it provides. Instead, our Lord said,

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matt 6:33).

Another lie money tells is that it is the KEY to success.

While being financially independent is a worthy goal. It shouldn't be the “goal” of life. The truth is there is no genuine security in riches. You can lose it all in a moment. Money cannot be trusted to protect us.

Christ alone is adequate to be a trustworthy source of security. Through financial highs and economic downturns, no matter if you're rich or poor, Christ is the one in whom you should be trusting for your sense of security.

Look what the writer to the Hebrews says on this matter,

Hebrews 13:5–6

“Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I Will Never Desert You, Nor Will I Ever Forsake You,’ so that we confidently say, ‘The Lord Is My Helper, I Will Not Be Afraid. What Shall Man Do To Me?’”

Lastly... A lie that money tells is that it is an EASY Master...

It's more comfortable to serve cash than Christ... No list of rules, do's & don'ts, no self sacrifice, No obligatory give backs..

But the fact of the matter is that money is fickle & will raise your hopes w/ an upward trend in the market.... & leave you desperate w/ the very next crash.

Money will offer you happiness... but ONLY if you sacrifice a little more time away from your family & friends to gain more of her.

Worst of all the dollar promises a life of ease and comfort, surrounded with all of your favorite things, *but as the old adage goes*, “before you know it the things you own begin to own you.”

Every possession, every investment, every business requires more and more of your attention to hold it all together. And soon what felt like freedom begins to feel like slavery. Money is a hard master and will leave you exhausted if you choose to be its slave.

The truth is Christ is the easier Master. Jesus said, “For My yoke is easy, and My load is light**” (Matt 11:30).**

That's why in today's passage... Jacob gives a CLEAR warning to those who have become comfortable in their wealth, Secure in their INCOME, IMMORAL in their acquisition of it...

James 5: 1- 6 NKJV

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days.

This phrase may mean that the rich have stored up treasures in the form of God's wrath

Romans 2:5-6

But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who “will render to each one according to his deeds”:

Jacob continues....

4 Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

5 You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your hearts as in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you.

you have murdered An employer who withheld a person's wages, resulting in their starvation, may actually have been guilty of murder.

This morning... I believe God is challenging us w/ our personal relationship with money... Is it a means... or a Master in your lives?

Are we REAPING 2 SOW??

Proverbs 13:11

11 Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.

CALL TO ACTION

The Lord says draw near unto Him... & He'll draw near unto you... It's up to YOU to make that move... Are you ready to be set free?

Would you give me an opportunity to pray for you right now? This altar is open.. for you..

Closing Prayer

**“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.””**

I bless you in the Name of the Father, & of the SON, & of the Holy Spirit... Amen!!

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Pr 11:28.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Ti 6:10.

Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible, vol. 2 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 418.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 13:18–23.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 16:26.

<https://blog.tms.edu/3-lies-money-tells>

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jas 5:1–6.

John D. Barry et al., Faithlife Study Bible (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Jas 5:3.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 2:5–7.