



Title: Practical Living: Patience

Scripture: James 5:1-12

Date: 07222018

Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: Before you say a word, what you do and how you act communicates much more to others than you think.

Vs. 1

Come now - James grabs our attention again with his opening. He says to us listen up.

The social and economic distance between these two classes in the first century contributed to widespread abuse of the latter by the former.- Guthrie

Vs. 2

Your riches are corrupted - The original language suggests that their garments are rotten.

Your garments are moth-eaten - Fine garments would indicate to others that they were wealthy. We get the sense from this description that their clothes are useless.

We can collect and accumulate riches but in all honesty they are useless from a spiritual perspective.

Vs. 3

Your gold and silver are corroded - James continues with his illustration and says that their gold and silver are corroded.

We can be rich in material but poor in spirit.

Vs. 4

You kept back by fraud - James says that these wealthy people have kept back the wages of those who have worked.

Reached the ears of the Lord - Not only have these wealthy business owners kept back wages, the prayers of the condemned have been made known to the Lord.

Their corrosion will be a witness against you - When we have passed, the stuff we have collected will just end up being a witness to others as to what was most important to us.

Vs. 5-6

You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury - Not only have these wealthy people kept back their wages but their very lifestyle of indulgence is a witness against them.

Vs. 7

Therefore be patient - James now offers a new challenge to the brethren and to those of us who can identify with them. Therefore, considering all that they have endured, he says to be patient.

Now he calls Christians (especially those enduring hardship) to patiently endure until the coming of the Lord. - Guzik

Until the coming of the Lord - James tells the brethren to be patient until the coming of the Lord.

The farmer waits for the precious fruit- James uses the example of a farmer to drive home this point.

Vs. 8

Establish your hearts- James tells them to take courage. Be strengthened. Strengthen your heart.

The heart was understood as the seat of all aspects of the inner life- the will, emotions, reasons, and moral understanding. - Guthrie

“A man to whom it is given to wait for a reward keeps up his courage, and when he has to wait, he says, ‘It is no more than I expected. I never reckoned that I was to slay my enemy at the first blow. I never imagined that I was to capture the city as soon as ever I had dug the first trench; I reckoned upon waiting, and now the time has come, I find that God gives me the grace to fight on and wrestle on, till the victory shall come.’ And patience saves a man from a great deal of haste and folly.” - Spurgeon

Vs. 9

Do not grumble against one another- James then encourages the brethren not to fight and grumble against each other.

This mission requires Everyone of us, Everyday, to be an example of Christ Everywhere we go.

Vs. 10

Take the prophets...as an example of suffering and patience- James points back to the prophets for us to consider.

James wishes to exhort the listeners to follow biblical examples who form part of their spiritual heritage.- Guthrie

James reminds us that the prophets of the Old Testament endured hardship, yet practiced patient endurance. - Guzik

Vs. 11

You have heard of the perseverance of Job- James uses the example of Job.

The Lord is very compassionate and merciful- James is making a point that God restricted what Satan could do against Job

The path to blessing is along the road of patient endurance.

Vs. 12

But above all- James is putting a stamp on this conversation.

Do not swear- James echos the teaching of Jesus from the Sermon on the mount. (Matthew 5:34-37)

Let your yes be yes and your no, no- James encourages us to not add to our word. A simple yes or no is all that we need.

July 22nd, 2018

Discuss

Dig Deeper



Practical Living: Living: Patience

James 5:1-12

3D Guide

DO.

BOTTOM LINE: Before you say a word, what you do and how you act communicates much more to others than you think.



1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?

DISCUSS.



1. What topic covered in James 5:1-12 most impacted you?
2. Is it important for Christians to behave a certain way? Why or why not?
3. James says to let our yes be yes and our no, no. In what ways can we practically apply this to our lives?

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.



Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

DATE: July 15th, 2018

Bible Story: "A Lost Book Is Found" (2 Kings 22-23)

1. Today we talked about a king named Josiah. Josiah's workers were working on repairing a temple when they found an 800 year old book that his father had thrown out. What book was it? (The Bible)
2. When Josiah read the book he became very upset and tore his clothes. Why was King Josiah so upset? (He realized people were not obeying God's laws)
3. What changed after Josiah read the Bible? (He asked the people to do what the Bible commanded and he destroyed every statue of a false god)
4. When we read the Bible, we may see that some things in our life need to change—like when we read that God wants us to "honor our father and mother." We may not always WANT to obey them, but we try our best to because we know this is pleasing to God. What are some other things that the Bible can help us change for the better?

Memory Verse: "Be good to me, your servant, so that I may live to obey your word. Open my eyes so that I can see all of the wonderful things in your teachings." (Psalm 119:17-18)



