



Where is Your Trust? James 5:1-6

James 5:1-3, Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you.

2 Your clothes are moth-eaten rags.

3 Your gold and silver have become worthless. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the Day of Judgment.

I. God warns us not to trust in money. James 5:1-3; Matthew 6:19; Psalm 20:7; 1 Timothy 6:17

James 5:2-3, Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags.

3 Your gold and silver have become worthless.

Matthew 6:19, Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust

destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal.

Psalm 20:7, Some boast in chariots and some in horses, But we will boast in the name of the LORD, our God. NASB

1 Timothy 6:17, Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

II. God warns us not to be greedy. James 5:3; Luke 12:16-21

James 5:3, The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the Day of Judgment.

Luke 12:16-21, Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops.

17 He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.'

18 Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have

room enough to store all my wheat and other goods.

19 And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'

21 "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

III. God cautions us not to be wasteful. James 5:5a-b

James 5:1-b, You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire.

IV. God commands us not to cheat others.

James 5:4a-b;6; Proverbs 22:1

James 5:4a-b and 5:6, For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. ...

6 You have condemned and killed innocent people, who do not resist you.

Proverbs 22:1, A good reputation and respect are worth much more than silver and gold.
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V. Never forget that God's payday is coming someday. James 5:3c, 4c-5

James 5:3c, 4c-5, This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the day of judgment...

4c The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

5 You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter.

Matthew 6:24, No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 6:21, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. NASB

1 Timothy 6:9-10, But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.

¹⁰ **For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.**

****What are YOU trusting in???**

APPLY GOD'S WORD TO YOUR LIFE.....

- 1. What is most important to you...your reputation or your relationship with Christ?**
- 2. Are you consumed with getting more stuff or with getting closer to God?**
- 3. Are you a giver or a taker?**
- 4. Do you understand that everything you have belongs to God? Are you using these things for HIS glory?**
- 5. Are you certain of your relationship with Christ?**
- 6. What is His Spirit prompting you to do right now?**

Matthew 16:26, And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?