

The background is a solid light green color. In the four corners, there are stylized illustrations of green plants and leaves. The top-left corner features a branch with several long, thin, pointed leaves. The top-right corner shows a similar branch with smaller, more rounded leaves. The bottom-left corner has a cluster of leaves, some of which are solid green, while others are outlined. The bottom-right corner features a branch with several pointed leaves, some solid green and some outlined.

James

A Final Word on Honoring God in the Midst of Trials

1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure!

4 Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, [and] which has been withheld by you, cries out [against you;] and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. 5 You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and put to death the righteous [man;] he does not resist you.

[James 5:1-6 NASB95]

A. Warnings for the rich 5:1–6

1. The introduction of the problem 5:1
2. The corrosive effect of wealth 5:2–3
3. The misuse of wealth 5:4–6

”To lay up treasure in heaven means to use all that we have as stewards of God’s wealth. You and I may *possess* many things, but we do not *own* them. God is the Owner of everything, and we are His stewards.”

”The Bible does not discourage saving, or even investing; but it does condemn hoarding.”

–Warren Wiersbe

❖ How we feel about giving away what we have is a good guide to our heart attitude toward our possessions.

A. Warnings for the rich 5:1-6

1. The introduction of the problem 5:1
2. The corrosive effect of wealth 5:2-3
3. The misuse of wealth 5:4-6

❖ When life feels unfair, we honor God by trusting His timing instead of trying to take matters into our own hands.

B. The Proper Attitude 5:7–12

1. The exhortation to be patient 5:7–9
2. Examples of endurance 5:10–11
3. The evidence of patience is integrity 5:12

7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. 8 You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. 9 Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door.

10 As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and [is] merciful.

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**12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward [is]
with Me, to render to every man according to what
he has done.**

[Rev 22:12 NASB95]

- ❖ Am I waiting well—or am I grumbling in the waiting?
- ❖ Do I view trials as interruptions—or as opportunities to trust God's timing?

12 But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

[James 5:7-12 NASB95]

B. The Proper Attitude 5:7–12

1. The exhortation to be patient 5:7–9
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- ❖ **Speak truth even when it costs.**
- ❖ **Keep commitments even when it's inconvenient.**
- ❖ **Let your words reflect the steady character of your Savior.**

13 Is anyone among you suffering? [Then] he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. 14 Is anyone among you sick? [Then] he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.

16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. 18 Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.

[James 5:16–18 NASB95]

C. The proper action 5:13–18

1. The way of release 5:13
2. The prescription for help 5:14–16
3. The power of prayer 5:17–18

19 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, 20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

[James 5:19–20 NASB95]

D. The way back to living by faith 5:19–20

- ❖ Who in your life needs gentle restoration?
- ❖ Who might be wandering, discouraged, or distant from God—and needs your prayer and encouragement?

- **When life feels unfair—trust God’s justice.**
- **When you’re waiting—persevere with patience.**
- **When tempted to compromise—speak with integrity.**
- **When you’re weary—pray in faith.**
- **When others wander—restore with love.**

Next semester...

The book of Isaiaiah



Morning



Evening