

Be careful!

James 5:1 Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. <sup>2</sup>Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver are corroded. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment. <sup>4</sup>For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

<sup>5</sup>You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and killed innocent people,<sup>[a]</sup> who do not resist you.<sup>[b]</sup>

Duet 8:18 Remember the LORD your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.

Pro 10:22 The blessing of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

I Tim 6:10 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.

## 1. Be careful how we utilize our possessions

--Be careful not to withhold our possessions

<sup>2</sup>Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver are corroded. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment

-- Be careful not to be selfish with our possessions

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

Ecc 2:11 But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. There was nothing really worthwhile anywhere.

## Gospel

Luke 16:9 Here's the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home

## Care

Gal 2:10 Their only suggestion was that we keep on helping the poor, which I have always been eager to do.

I John 3:16-18 We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister<sup>(a)</sup> in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

## Ministry support

I Cor 9:14 <sup>14</sup> In the same way, the Lord ordered that those who preach the Good News should be supported by those who benefit from it.

Gal 6:6 Those who are taught the word of God should provide for their teachers, sharing all good things with them.

## 2. Be careful how we treat others

<sup>4</sup>For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

--They got more possessions by cheating others.

Deut 24:14-15 "Never take advantage of poor and destitute laborers, whether they are fellow Israelites or foreigners living in your towns. <sup>15</sup>You must pay them their wages each day before sunset because they are poor and are counting on it. If you don't, they might cry out to the LORD against you, and it would be counted against you as sin.

Rom 13:7 Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority.

--They were getting more possessions by taking others to court

<sup>6</sup>You have condemned and killed innocent people,<sup>[a]</sup> who do not resist you.<sup>[b]</sup>

I Cor 6:1 When one of you has a dispute with another believer, how dare you file a lawsuit and ask a secular court to decide the matter instead of taking it to other believers<sup>[a]</sup>!

3. Be careful to act!

1.Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you.

Vs5 "You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter."

Close:

If a person gets his attitude toward money straight, it will help straighten out almost every other area in his life.

**Billy Graham**