

James 5:1-11 – Our Mindset on Riches

1. An Earthly Mindset: Those who strive for riches

A. “Rich” = wealthy, abounding in material resources

- These are people whose life goal is to gain wealth and things.

B. The problem with riches (5:1-6)

- 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - Wealth does not last (v. 1-3)
- 1 Timothy 6:9-10 - Is money evil?

C. Without the right mindset, riches can lead to sin.

- v.4 – They withhold wages or cheat those who work for them.
- v.5 – They live for self-advancement and fulfill sinful desires.
- v.6 – They fulfill their selfish ambitions at the cost of any and all who stand in their way.

2. An Eternal Mindset: Waiting on God (5:7-12)

A. “Patience” = not to lose heart, to persevere patiently and bravely in enduring misfortunes and troubles (v. 7,8,10)

- In contrast to the worldly drive for riches, a believer is called to be patient, waiting on God.
- It is a different mindset: God focus vs. me focus

B. Waiting for the “Coming of the Lord” (v. 7,8,9)

- When He comes, our struggles will be over!
- General trials of life (ch.1), temptation (ch. 1), partiality (ch.2), our tongues (ch.3), struggles with a worldly mindset (ch.4) financial (ch. 5)

C. Three examples for what we are to wait for

- Farmer – v.7 – waits for God to provide rain, sun, crop – God’s Provision
- Prophet – v.10 – waited for Gods words to come true – God’s Promises
- Job – v.11 – waited for God to work His plan out for life – God’s Purpose

Thoughts to Ponder

1. Wealth is not evil by itself. However, when your motivation is focused on riches instead of God, sin is often the result.
2. What is your motivation?

