

A photograph of an antique, yellowed, and slightly torn piece of parchment or old paper. A large, dark, curved quill pen is positioned diagonally across the right side. In the top left corner, there is a small, circular, yellowish-brown object, possibly a piece of dried wax or a small seal. In the bottom right corner, a red, oval-shaped wax seal is attached to a dark string. The background is a dark, vertical-grained wooden surface.

# A Letter from James

WHEN

EARTHLY TREASURES  
GET IN THE WAY OF  
Heavenly Treasures



James 5:1 “Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. 2 Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. 3 Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days.”



4 “Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. 5 You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you.”



# When earthly treasures become a problem

- When we hoard them
- When we don't use it for God's kingdom
- When we worry that God won't provide
- When we acquire it wrongly
- When they get in the way of God and have our heart



**How do I began to shift my focus to  
Heavenly Treasures?**

Matthew 6:19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your **treasure** is, there your **heart** will be also.”



22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy (generous), your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eyes are unhealthy (stingy), your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You **cannot** serve **both** God and **money**.”

33 “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

1 Timothy 6: 10 “For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

Matthew 13:44 “The **kingdom of heaven** is like **treasure** hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and **bought** that field. 45 “Again, the **kingdom of heaven** is like a merchant looking for **fine pearls**. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and **bought** it.”

# Things that will last

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Relationship with God

Eternal life

Kingdom Impact



HE IS NO FOOL TO GIVE UP WHAT HE CAN'T KEEP  
TO GAIN WHAT HE CAN NEVER LOSE. Jim Elliot

Which treasures are you seeking?