

# James

## (12) The Value of Patience

James 5:7-9

*Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. 8 You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. 9 Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! NIV*

### The warning to the wicked rich...5:1-6

To whom is this passage addressed? 5:4-6; Mt.6:19-21, 24

**To the unrepentant rich who were living in luxury and condemning/murdering innocent.**

Is it *fundamentally* wrong to be wealthy? Prov.10:22 What then is the issue? ITim.6:10

**No. Wealth is a gift from the Lord. Hoarding or ill-gotten wealth or loving money is sin.**

What is James' unusual admonition to these self-reliant rich people? 5:1; Lu.16:19-31

**Weep and wail (instead of indulging) because of the misery that is coming to you!**

What is the word picture given by James about this ill-gotten wealth? 5:2-3, 5

**Their 'friendly' wealth has become a deadly enemy. Testify against you and consume you!**

What is the fundamental sin of these rich 'professing' Jews? 5:3b; Prov.23:4-5

**They were hoarding (selfishly storing up for themselves) their possessions. No sharing.**

Not only are they hoarding but what is significant about *the time*? 5:3b; IPet.1:20, 4:7; IJn.2:18

**It's being done in the last days. That is, just before the Judge (Jesus) returns! How silly.**

### The admonitions to the brothers...5:7-11

What is James' urging to the believers (mainly oppressed by the rich)? 5:7-8; Rom.12:19-21

**Be patient. The Lord is coming back soon! He is 'at the door'! Oppressors will be judged.**

What often happens to us when we're oppressed? 5:9 Comment? (complain=bitter spirit)

**We tend to grumble (complain) against/about each other (brothers). Inviting Judgment!**

James calls our attention to whom as examples of patience? 5:10 see Acts 7:52

**He urges us to recall the patience of the OT prophets. Many suffered even to death.**

And then, additionally he calls our attention to whom? 5:11; Job.13:15; see Rom.8:28

**As one who persevered he reminds us of Job. This was demonic persecution, not the rich.**

And what is his final reminder in this topic? 5:11b Ps.86:15, 103:8, 111:4; Joel 2:13, etc.

**The Lord is full of compassion and mercy! It is His very nature, especially toward His own**

Why is this important to us today? IPet.5:7; Ps.103:13-14

**He never changes. No matter the oppression, His grace is sufficient. It's our hope!**

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