

Faith in Riches

James 5:1-8

Introduction:

James 1:1-19 While in Trials know that it is not from God but be faithful in trials

James 1:19-25 We must be not just hearers of the word but doers

James 1:25-26 True Religion: Controlling your tongue/ Visit the widow and the orphan/ Keep yourself unspotted from the world

James 2:1-13 Do not show favoritism

James 2:14-26 Faith without works is dead

James 3:1-12 Control your Tongue

James 3:13 -4:9 Earthly wisdom verses Heavenly wisdom

James 4:10-17 Know your place under God and know that He is the master of all tomorrow

James 5:1-8 James scolds the wicked rich person

Verse 1a Who is rich?

1. Come on rich man!
2. Who is rich?
3. \$25,000 salary in the top 2% of wealth in the world.
4. We are rich so we must understand that we are in the rich man category.

Verse 1b-3 Where is your hope?

1. Weep and howl.
2. Money is not bad but it is dangerous!
3. This sin here is not being rich but placing your hope in your riches.
4. Riches does not bring peace.
5. Money does not ease peace; it increases anxiety.
6. James is telling the rich your treasures are going to burn.
7. Verse 1 Misery shall come upon you.
8. Verse 2 Your riches are corrupted and your clothes are moth-eaten.
9. Verse 3 Your gold and silver is cankered and the rust is a witness against you.

10. You have heaped treasures for yourself for the last days.
11. Fidelity survey 1 Million in assets survey. 46% of them feel it is not enough.
12. Discontent is the starting point of sin.
13. Money can bless a ministry or kill it.
14. Genesis 2
15. 360 times a day we you are called to discontent by media ads.
16. Does more money make you feel safe or does God make you feel safe?
17. Dietrich Bonhoeffer *"Earthly goods deceive the human heart into believing that they give security and freedom from worry, but in truth they are what cause anxiety."*
18. Dateline/ 48 Hours/ 20/20
19. 1 Timothy 6: 6-12

Verses 4-6 Why are you corrupt?

1. Verse 4 You abuse your workers by fraud.
2. Erin Brockovich.
3. Tabloid Magazines.
4. Corporations that abuse people and workers.
5. James is saying God is watching.
6. Lord of Sabaoth= God the Warrior.
7. The Warrior God is taking notes.
8. You live in pleasure at the expense of others.
9. We must cautiously judge the poor (Illegal immigrants/ Refugees).

Verse 7-8 Watch and Wait

1. Be patient therefore.
2. The farmer waits for the harvest.
3. There will be latter rain.
4. Rich young ruler and Lazarus.
5. Be patient and establish your heart for the coming of the Lord draweth near.

Conclusion:

1. Realize you are rich in comparison to the world.
2. Do not trust in your money for peace.
3. Trust in God for peace.
4. Use your wealth to glorify God because wealth is not a curse.

Challenge:

1. Be wise with your money.
2. Be content with your money.
3. Be generous with your money.
4. Be spiritually strategic with your money.