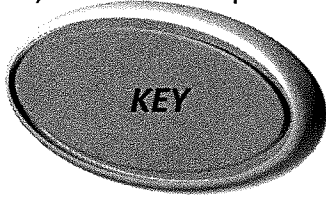


Studies in the Letter from James 5:1-6

Sunday, July 7, 2019

The Letter From James: We said in the first study that James, rather than being a logically developed theme from start to finish, was a series of practical admonitions in living the Christian life. As we move into chapter 5 James raises the issue of the misuse of wealth among believers and faith that has no works to reflect it.



***Show me your faith without the works,
And I will show you my faith by my works.***

Waiting for the Promised Blessings

I. Be Patient Until the Coming of the Lord

James ties patiently waiting on the Lord's return with the desire for riches. If your heart is set on the acquisition of material things and substantial savings, why would you want the Lord to come and take you away from it all? For those whose heart is set on riches, the rapture and the end of this age is not a blessing.

We are exhorted to be patient, waiting on the coming of the Lord. This world is not our home; it is filled with trouble and sorrow. Our time is limited in which to bring others to faith in Christ. Our greatest treasure is seeing those who we have influenced at the judgment safely resting in the love and forgiveness of God.

II. Corollary Passages of Scripture

1. The Model Prayer, Mat.6:1, "Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
2. John 9:4, "We must work the works of Him Who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work."
3. Mat 24:42-44 Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*.
4. For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? (1Th 2:19 NAU)
5. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not let this one *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat. (2Pe 3:7-15 NAU)