

Waiting for the Judge

James 5:1-12

A. Mourn the sins of the wealthy (5:1-6)

1. The _____ of rich oppressors is declared in verse one:
 - a. The _____ addressed in these six verses are “the rich”, not all wealthy people, but specifically those who have ill-gotten and ill-used wealth.
 - i. *Application for the believer who has mistreated others for the sake of money:*
 - ii. *Application for the believer who has suffered due to the sins of the rich:*
 - b. The _____ for these wealthy people is to “weep” mournfully.
 - c. The _____ for the instruction is because of “your miseries” that are coming, which, based on the rest of the passage, the miseries are the result of impending judgement from God which they deserve.
2. The _____ of the rich oppressors is described in verses two through six:
 - a. You are _____ (v2-3)
 - b. You have withheld wages, and _____ noticed (v4)
 - “the Lord of Sabaoth” (from Hebrew *yhwh tseva’ōth*, “LORD of hosts”) = the Master of heaven’s armies who will conquer and judge
 - c. You are _____ (v5)
 - d. You have been moved to gross sins against the _____ (v6)

A basic perspective on the believer and money: *Your money belongs to God, is to be used for good, but it should not be loved, served, nor trusted.* (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:7-12; Ps. 62:10; Prov. 11:4, 13:11, 19:17, 23:4-5; Luke 16:1-13; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; Phil. 4:12-19)

B. Because God is watching, be patient (5:7-12)

1. Because God is watching them, take _____. (v7-8)

- The primary command: *“be patient”*
- The time limit: *“until the coming of the Lord.”*
- The illustration: *“See how the farmer waits...”*
- The parallel command: *“Establish your hearts”*
- The reason: *“for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”*

2. Because God is watching you, take _____. (v9-12)

* *Where will the sins of the unbeliever be judged?*
(2 Thess. 1:6-10; Rev. 20:11-15)

* *Where will the works of the believer be judged?*
(1 Cor. 3:10-15; 2 Cor. 5:9-10)

a. The child of God who expects to be evaluated will learn to adopt God’s _____ toward believers amidst difficulty. (v9-11)

- The command: *“do not grumble”*
- The reason: *“lest you be judged”*
- The examples: *“the prophets... Job...”*
- The God we serve: *“very compassionate and merciful”*

b. The child of God who expects to be evaluated will learn to speak with simple _____. (v12)

- The command: *“do not swear...”*
- The reason: *“lest you fall into judgment”*

Waiting for the Judge reminds you:

It’s not all okay _____, but one day, everything will truly be all right.