

James 5:1–12



1 Come now, you rich! Weep and cry aloud over the miseries that are coming on you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your clothing has become moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have rusted and their rust will be a witness against you. It will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have hoarded treasure! 4 Look, the pay you have held back from the workers who mowed your fields cries out against you, and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived indulgently and luxuriously on the earth. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person, although he does not resist you. 7 So be patient, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's return. Think of how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the ground and is patient for it until it receives the early and late rains. 8 You also be patient and strengthen your hearts, for the Lord's return is near. 9 Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged. See, the judge stands before the gates! 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name. 11 Think of how we regard as blessed those who have endured. You have heard of Job's endurance and you have seen the Lord's purpose, that the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. 12 And above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath. But let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall into judgment.

Be Patient

1. What are the *miseries* of James 5:1?
2. List the three main sources of wealth in the ancient east (5:2–3)...
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
3. What crime had the rich committed in James 5:4?
4. Who is the "Lord of hosts" (5:4)? What does this mean?
5. Does James 5:5–6 describe all of the rich?
6. Define *patient* (5:7) [Gr. *makrothumeo*].
7. Name the three examples of patience given by James (5:7–11):
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
8. Define *endurance* (5:11) [Gr. *hupomone*].
9. Are all oaths prohibited (5:12)?