

The Epistle of
JAMES



*Planning for
Permanence*
James 4:13 – 5:9

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Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; ²¹ for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

(Matthew 6:19-21).

Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. (Matthew 7:26).



The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell--and great was its fall. (Matthew 7:27).



James 4:13-14

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.” ¹⁴ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

As for the days of our life, they contain
seventy years,
Or if due to strength, eighty years,
Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow;
For soon it is gone and we fly away.
(Psalm 90:10).

So teach us to number our days,
That we may present to You a heart of
wisdom. (Psalm 90:12).

James 4:15

Instead, *you ought* to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.”

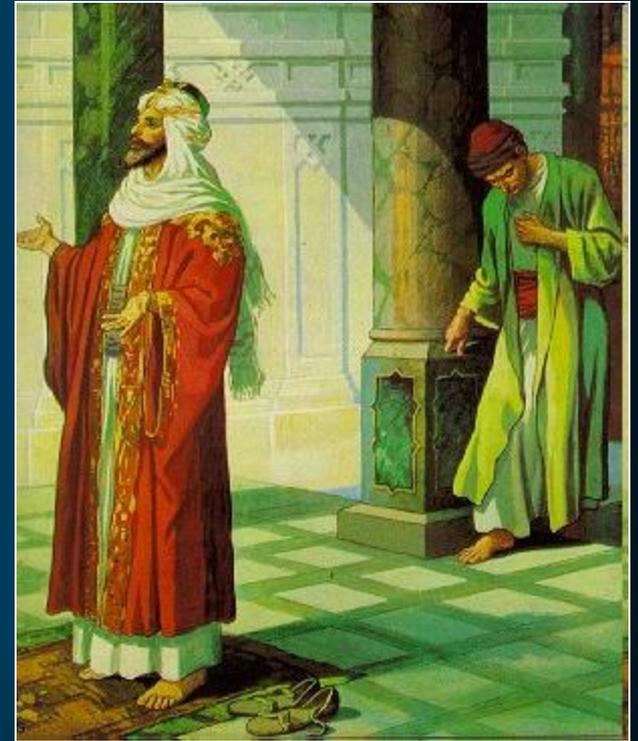


Does this mean we should stop making plans about the future?

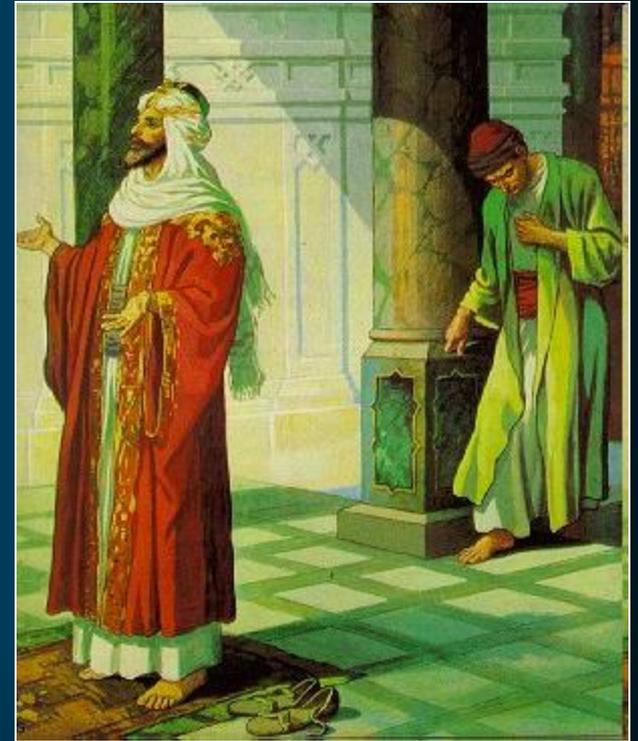
James 4:16-17

But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

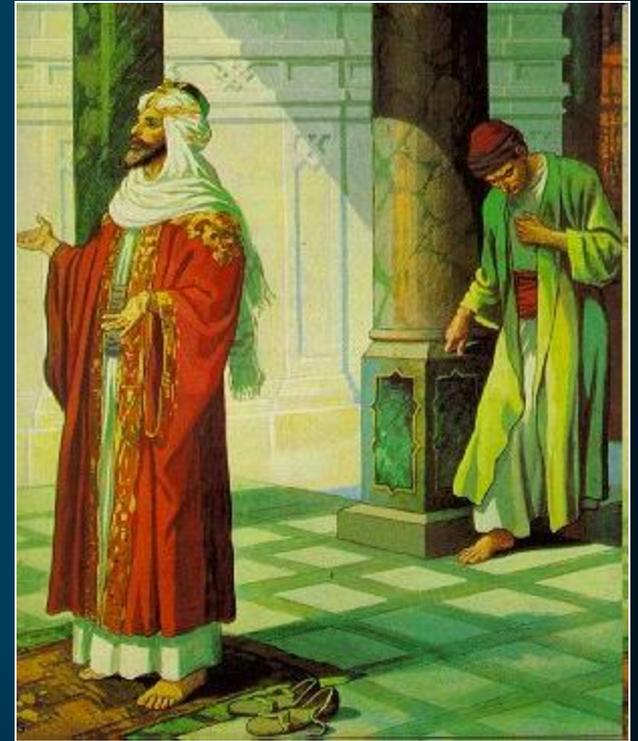
And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. (Luke 18:9-10).



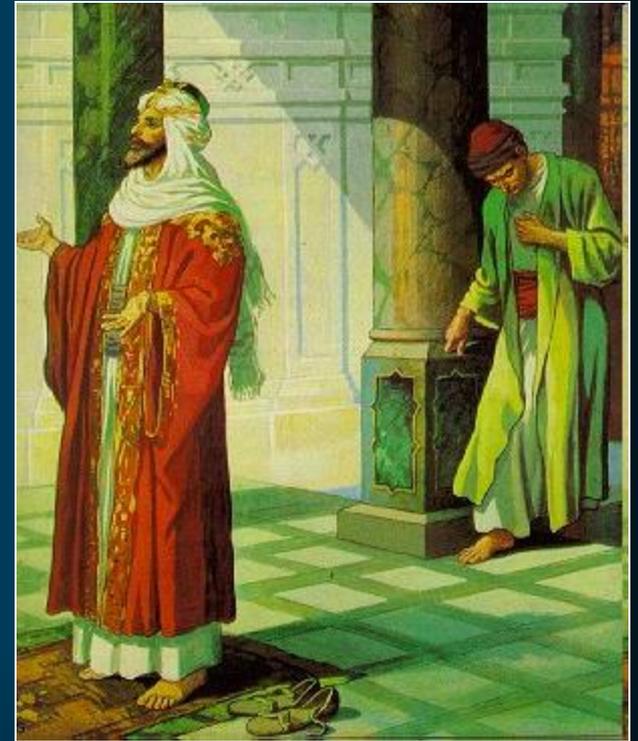
The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.' (Luke 18:11-12).



But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!' (Luke 18:13).



I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself shall be humbled, but he who humbles himself shall be exalted. (Luke 18:14).



James 5:1

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.

James 5:2

Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.

Wealth does not last

James 5:3

Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure!

**Wealth is a witness
to what you love**

James 5:4

Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, *and* which has been withheld by you, cries out *against you*; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

**Wealth often comes at
the expense of others**

James 5:5-6

You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and put to death the righteous *man*; he does not resist you.

**Wealth tempts us to live
for present pleasures**

James 5:7-8

Therefore be **patient**, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being **patient** about it, until it gets the early and late rains. ⁸ You too be **patient**; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

makroqum
(*makrothumeo*)

e,w

Makroj: Distant, far
Qumoj Anger

James 5:7-8

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. ⁸ You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

Perfect active
indicative

James 5:9

Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door.



Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door. (Matthew 24:32-33)



Truly I say to you,
this generation will
not pass away until
all these things
take place.
(Matthew 24:34)

James 5:9

Do not complain, brethren,
against one another, so that you
yourselves may not be judged;
behold, the Judge is standing right at
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