

# The Book of James

## The Character of a Mature Christian

### Lesson Five – James Chapter Five



***Black Creek church of Christ***

***Summer Bible School***

***July 20, 2018***

James 5 – Outline and Study Questions:

- **A mature Christian is patiently, faithfully endures affliction.** (Js. 5:1-12)
  - In what ways is 5:1-6 similar to 4:13-17?
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Thought question: How does 4:17 look forward as well as backward? (cf. Lk. 12:37)
 

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  - What warning does James issue to the rich? (cf. 1:9-11; 2:6-7)
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - In view of the above, what are they instructed to do? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
    - Cf. Isa. 13:6; 15:3; Amos 8:3; Lk. 6:24-25
  - What are the miseries that are to come upon them? \_\_\_\_\_
  - How did these rebuked rich manifest a sinful attitude toward material things?
 

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  - What had happened (“prophetic perfect”) to their riches, garments, gold and silver?
 

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    - How does this speak to the ultimate value of earthly things? (cf. I Tim. 6:6-7; Matt. 6:19-20) \_\_\_\_\_
  - What two things does James tell these rich that the rust of their riches would do?
 

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    - In what way would the deterioration of their wealth witness against them? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What is the meaning of the “Lord of Sabaoth”? (cf. I Sam. 17:45; Isa. 6)
 

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  - What had reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth?
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - In what days had these rich stored up their treasure? (cf. Acts 2:17; II Tim. 3:1; Heb. 1:2; I Jn. 3:18) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Consider verse 4 in light of Matt. 20:1-16 and Deut. 24:14-15. Of what were these rich land owners guilty?
 

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  - How had these careless, worldly-minded rich lived? (v. 5) \_\_\_\_\_
    - As a result what had they done? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Summarize the charges that James levels against the rich in this section:
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - How could these words be an encouragement to those who were being oppressed by them? (cf. Ps. 73 and 37)
 

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  - Can you connect verse 7 with the first part of the book?
 

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  - What is the connection of verse 7 with the first part of the chapter (“therefore”)?
 

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- In contrast those condemned above, with what word does James address his readers? \_\_\_\_\_
- Research question: How many times does the word “brethren” occur in the book?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- In one word, what is the message of verses 7-11? \_\_\_\_\_
- **Note:** “Patience” as used in these verses → a patient, expectant waiting on the Lord.
- Until what event does James exhort patience? \_\_\_\_\_
- What familiar illustration does James use to teach the patience needed when afflicted?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- In addition to urging patience in the midst of difficulties, James also exhorts them to \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_.
- How does one “establish” or strengthen their heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What are James’s hearers instructed not to do when facing adversity?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Are grumbling and complaining temptations during difficult times – in the face of adversity? (cf. Eph. 4:2; I Thess. 5:14-15) \_\_\_\_\_
- When will Jesus return? (cf. Mk. 13:32) \_\_\_\_\_
- In what other passage in the book does James link speaking against others with judgement?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Note: “the nearness of the eschatological day is not just an impetus to look forward to the judgment of sinners”...but it is also a warning to examine one’s behavior so that when the one whose footsteps are nearing finally knocks on the door, one may be prepared to open...the coming Lord is also the judge of the Christian.” (P. B. Davids)
- As James exhorts his readers to patience endurance in affliction, to what Old Testament examples does he appeal? (cf. Matt. 5:12; 23:29-37; Acts 7:52, etc.)  
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- Give some examples of prophets and their suffering:
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  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Be ready to discuss the patience (endurance) of Job.  
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- \_\_\_\_\_