

Just Grow Up!

James - A Manual for Maturity

Handling God's Wealth Wisely

August 19 & 20, 2023



How Rich Am I?

James 5:1-6 (NLT)

Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. Your gold and silver are corroded. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment. For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord of Heaven's Armies. You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. You have condemned and killed innocent people, who do not resist you.

The Wrong View of Wealth Happens When I:

- **Accumulate wealth so I can hoard it.**

Verse 3c

This corroded treasure you have hoarded...

- **Appropriate wealth for dishonest gain.**

Verse 4b

The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord...

- **Associate wealth with my purpose for living rather than loving God and people.**

Verse 5

You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter.

To Have a Godly View of Wealth I Must:

1

Develop a balanced approach to earning money.

1 Timothy 6:10 (NLT)

For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

Proverbs 13:11 (NLT)

Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

How do I develop a balanced approach?

- **Save some**

Proverbs 21:20 (LB)

The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.

- **Invest some**

Ecclesiastes 11:1 (NLT)

Send your grain across the seas, and in time, profits will flow back to you.

- **Live on some**

Hebrews 13:5 (TPT)

Don't be obsessed with money but live content with what you have, for you always have God's presence. For hasn't he promised you, "I will never leave you, never! And I will not loosen my grip on your life!"

- **Give the rest**

2 Corinthians 9:11 (TPT)

You will be abundantly enriched in every way as you give generously on every occasion, for when we take your gifts to those in need, it causes many to give thanks to God.

2

Determine I will never allow money to destroy my health or hurt my family.

Proverbs 23:4 (NLT)

Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit.

Proverbs 11:29 (MSG)

Exploit or abuse your family, and end up with a fistful of air; common sense tells you it's a stupid way to live.

3 John 1:2 (TPT)

Beloved friend, I pray that you are prospering in every way and that you continually enjoy good health, just as your soul is prospering.

Decide to use my money to advance God's kingdom.**Psalm 24:1 (NLT)**

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

Acts 20:35 (NLT)

And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 (TPT)

Here's my point. A stingy sower will reap a meager harvest, but the one who sows from a generous spirit will reap an abundant harvest. Let giving flow from your heart, not from a sense of religious duty. Let it spring up freely from the joy of giving—all because God loves hilarious generosity! Yes, God is more than ready to overwhelm you with every form of grace, so that you will have more than enough of everything—every moment and in every way. He will make you overflow with abundance in every good thing you do. Just as the Scriptures say about the one who trusts in him.

Memory Verse**James 5:3 (NLT)**

Your gold and silver are corroded. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment.

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