

Ministry of The Holy Spirit
A Golden Rule
James 5:1-11

Last time...an encouraging Word to keep a proper perspective on what is going on in this nation
and an exhortation to shine our lights in the darkness of our times

We are here for such a time as this (Esther 4:14)

While we are here,

1. It is wrong to judge the hearts of others
The judgment of hearts belongs solely to the Lord
Rather, we speak of the Lawgiver Who is able to save and destroy...
who saved sinners like us
2. Making worldly plans is fruitless
Rather, say, "Not my will, Lord, but your will be done." (sanctification)

This time...a golden rule

1st: a word to the unjust about their golden rule

2nd: a word to the just about His golden rule

The Epistle of James....a very contemporary letter to the Church
We are in James 5

v1 rich men, weep and howl:

A word from God to the worldly rich (and powerful, because money is power in
the world) who worship Mammon and not God

Have you ever heard the saying: Whoever has the gold makes the rules

Do you know the source of that "philosophy"?

Johnny Hart, author of *The Wizard of Id*

On May 3, 1965 a four-panel strip was published in many
newspapers across the nation

[Golden Rule]

"Humor is what happens when we're told the truth quicker and more directly than
we're used to."

George Saunders

"Comedy has to be based on truth. You take the truth and you put a little curlicue
at the end."

Sid Caesar

Whoever has the gold makes the rules...a punch line and an insightful observation

Who has the gold so they can make the rules is at the heart of the political strife in this nation

Remember: James 3:16

Capitalism

Companies of all sizes live by the motivation for profit and compete in a marketplace with other companies for it.

They exist to make money.

If the company is a corporation, its goal is maximizing shareholder wealth.

The Government's job to enforce laws and regulations to make sure there is a level playing field for privately-run companies.

Democrats: Government-centric – lots of laws and regulations

Republicans: Marketplace centric – fewer laws and regulations

Socialism

An economic system where the means of production, such as money and other forms of capital, are owned by the State.

Everyone works for wealth that is controlled by the State and in turn distributed to everyone by the State.

Progressive Democrats

Marxism

An economic system where the working class is responsible for the production and distribution of all of the wealth consumed by all members of society.

Progressive Democrats

Communism

The creation of an 'equal society' through an authoritarian state, which denies basic liberties and has complete control over the economy.

Russia, China, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba

The Bible speaks of private property

Socialism, Marxism, Communism are Godless philosophies of men

What are the common denominators of all these economic systems?

- The wicked, covetous heart of fallen man (Jer 17:9)
- Politics, the struggle for power and wealth
- The strong oppress the weak
- The gold ends up in the hands of a few

So regardless of the economic system...

the worldly rich believe

- the gold is theirs
- they make the rules

And as such, the worldly rich who worship Mammon

- Politicians who, thru influence peddling or access to insider information, have enriched themselves in the offices they hold, claiming to “represent” the little guy
- Celebrities who have enriched themselves entertaining the common man
- Business people who have enriched themselves by stepping on others in their chase of the dollar or by buying politicians

have swerved from serving others to serving themselves at the expense of others

The Holy Spirit has a Word of God to them:

Weep...wail loudly, sob silently

Howl...shriek

For the miseries...the calamities, the wretchedness

That shall come upon you...that are coming upon you

(certain, promised by God)

Ezk 7:19

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; As I live, surely mine oath that he hath despised, and my covenant that he hath broken, even it will I recompense upon his own head.

Power-seeking politicians, entertainers, business moguls think that since they have the gold they have power to rule over the common folk...

after all, they are the leaders of society and the common folk don't know what is best for them, right?

In their minds they know the way society must go...the way to further enrich themselves

End of the matter: the destruction of the world's economic system(s) in Rev 18

v2-3 riches...garments:

Your riches are corrupted/putrid/rotted

Luke 16:15 *Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.*

Your garments are moth-eaten...shocking news for all the fashionistas of the worldly rich

Your gold and silver is cankered...rotted, rusted, corroded, worthless

The rottenness of your gold and silver will be a testimony against you...
and the god you worshipped...when you stand before your Maker

Prov 13:7 There is that (man) maketh himself rich, yet *hath* nothing:
there is that maketh himself poor, yet *hath* great riches

Prov 28:22 He that hasteth to be rich *hath* an evil eye, and considereth
not that poverty shall come upon him

Prov 11:4a Riches profit not in the day of wrath

Matt 16:26 *For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world,
and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in
exchange for his soul?*

Your burning desire for the gold will turn to just burning...
an eternal, never-consuming fire

So have you stored up treasure for yourselves...in hell

Matt 6:19-21 opposite, because despise the Word of God

Luke 12:15-21

Contrary to popular (worldly) opinion, wealth comes from...the Lord

Deut 8:11-19

For those who deny/disavow that truth, suddenly, a “comedy”

(Whoso has the gold makes the rules, laughing all the way to the bank)
turns into tragic comedy and then a tragedy and then a horror

v4 hire of the laborers...cries of them:

The Holy Spirit rebukes the worldly rich for being greedy and for not being fair and honest with the common working folks

Wages honestly earned by laborers fraudulently being withheld by those who worship and covet the money

Jer 22:13 Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; *that* useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work;

Foundations set up by the rich and powerful for a good cause with salaries and administrative expenses taking a large percentage of the income... the "good cause" is **their** cause

Jer 22:17 But thine eyes and thine heart *are* not but for thy covetousness, and for to shed innocent blood, and for oppression, and for violence, to do *it*.

Prov 22:16 He that oppresseth the poor to increase his *riches*, *and* he that giveth to the rich, *shall* surely *come* to want.

The cries of the

- murdered/aborted, for selfish economic reasons
- workers, struggling to live paycheck to paycheck, day to day,

are not heard by the "ruling class"...but they are heard by the Lord of armies!

Ps 24:1 The earth *is* the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Hag 2:8 The silver *is* mine, and the gold *is* mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

Ps 9:12 When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.

How does a society ruled by those who have the gold "preserve" that society and "ensure" its (their) survival?

By

- denying the existence of the One, Self-Existent Creator before Whom all men are accountable
- embracing and teaching a philosophy of "survival of the fittest"
- purging/removing unproductive members of the society...the weakest
 - unwanted unborn
Planned Parenthood's aim: kill brown and black babies
 - Elderly...senior citizens draining the system's wealth
i.e. Social Security

[Dr. Zeke Emmanuel articles]

I am NOT saying this man believes in euthanasia

I am saying this way of thinking is a slippery slope

If society will not protect the weakest and the most defenseless,
who is safe?

Whoever has the gold makes the rules...is not a comedy!

v5-6 Ye have:

The stinging rebuke of the worldly rich by the Holy Spirit continues

Ye have:

1. lived in pleasure/luxury on the earth...wantonly
a deliberate, willful life of self-indulgence, holding nothing back
from yourself
2 Tim 3:1-4 in the last days perilous times shall come for men
shall be lovers of their own selves...lovers of
pleasures more than lovers of God
2. fattened your hearts...for the slaughter
the judgment of God awaits your self-fattening at the expense of
others
3. condemned and killed the just...who did not resist you
have perverted justice to do away with your enemies...the just,
the followers of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 3:18, Rom 3:28a),
the light of the world (Matt 5:14-16)

Luke 16:19-31

more valuable than worldly wealth – Moses and the
prophets i.e. the Word of God, true riches

Jesus Christ, the Just, was condemned and killed by the unjust...
unbelieving Jews and Gentiles

They did it for their own worldly interests

The just/believers are condemned and killed by the
unjust/unbelievers

They did/do it for their own worldly interests

Jesus came with grace and truth to “elevate” the hearts and minds
of mankind to be reconciled to God

He did not come to take “their” worldly stuff, He came to take
their sin

He did not covet the stuff (His) they had, He coveted their
repentance and their hearts

The followers of Jesus Christ, with the mind of Christ, do the same
as their Lord

We did/do not come to take their worldly stuff, we come with an
invitation of eternal life in Christ Jesus

We did/do not covet the stuff they had/have, we covet their
salvation

Yet they, the worldly rich, the “leaders” of a dark society,
are threatened by the Light and seek to extinguish it
(an impossible task)

1 Thes 4:6 The Lord is the Defender of the defrauded!

Now, the Holy Spirit turns His attention to the just who worship God and not
Mammon with a word of encouragement to remember another
“golden rule”

v7-8 Be patient, therefore, brethren:

Therefore...the Lord of armies knows all and sees all the worldly rich and
powerful are doing

He sees what the unjust are doing to the just

He hears the cries of the just, His own

The “golden rule” of the worldly rich is “Whoever has the gold makes the rules”;

It is a lie from the liar, a deception from the deceiver...it’s not a comedy!

The Lord desires none to perish but that all may come to repentance

So He is still contending with the unjust, the worldly rich, for their salvation

In the meantime, we are to live by another “golden rule”...

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you

Matt 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should
do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the
prophets.

Matt 22:36-40

James 2:8 The Royal Law is to love your neighbor as yourself

Rom 13:10 Love is the fulfilling of the Law

Which means we must...

- be patient, while the Lord pursues the unjust with His love and grace
- have cheerful endurance for the long distance race we are running,
a race of longsuffering

unto the coming of the Lord... [John 14:1-3], [Titus 2:11-14]

It is always too soon to quit following the Lord and being His ambassador
in this mortal body on our journey in this strange place

This is the Lord's "Wait training"

In the waiting is when fruit pleasing to the Father is borne...
abiding in Christ (John 15:1-8)
fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)

Fruit that is pleasing cannot be hurried

Fruit that is pleasing takes living water, water from heaven

- former rain...to prepare/soften the soil after a long hot summer
- latter rain...to bring the fruit to fruition, ripe and ready for the harvest

Be ye also patient...patient like the farmer waiting for God to do what God alone
can do

- prepare the soil of the hearts of men
- ripen the fruit in the hearts of men

stablish your hearts...resolve in your hearts to be as the farmer/husbandman,
to be as the Lord

1 Thes 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus concerning you.

Rom 8:29

for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh... [1 Thes 5:1-11]

1 Cor 7:29-31 time is short, the fashion/condition of this world
passes away

2 Peter 3:10-18 what manner of persons ought we to be?

Looking for the day of the Lord

Diligent to be found of Him in peace

Accounting that the longsuffering of the Lord is salvation

Growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ

The Lord's return is imminent...at any moment

None of us are guaranteed tomorrow

e.g. Tom Vitolo on 11/12/20

v9 Grudge not:

Do not murmur against each other
Eph 4:17-20

Do not be anti-christ-like

Do not be like the world, do not be envious of the evil doers and compromise our
walk/witness/testimony in the final stretch

Be gracious, loving, forgiving...as the Lord has been with us!
Eph 4:32

After all, the Judge of all the earth is standing at the door in heaven in these,
the last days...so finish well our course!

v10-11 the prophets...an example:

How can we diligently shine as lights in this perverse and corrupt and darkened
nation?

Consider Jesus, The Prophet foretold thru Moses...what He endured for what
purpose and for whose benefit
Luke 23:34

Consider the other prophets who were lights in the darkness of their nation

- Isaiah...[Is 20:1-4](#)
- Jeremiah...[Jer 20:7-9](#)
- Ezekiel...[Ezk 24:15-18, 24](#)
- Job
- etc

Jesus Christ and the prophets of God have gone before us, being examples to us as
to how to patiently/cheerfully endure afflictions/hardships and suffering in
the world while resolutely remaining faithful to the Lord God

Their fortitude encourages us

[Heb 11:32-40](#)

Happy/fortunate are they that endure the trials of this life, remaining faithful to
the One Who purchased us with His own blood/life

We rejoice in the longsuffering and compassion and mercy of God toward
us when we were unjust...should we not pray for, “cheer for”
the longsuffering and compassion and mercy of God toward the
unjust now?

Waiting with cheerful endurance is a test of our faithfulness...
blessed are the faithful, those who endure.

Application/Lessons

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 Cor 3:19a For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God
Whoever has the gold makes the rules is

- foolishness
- a lie
- a deception
- not a comedy

Gal 1:4 we have been delivered from this present evil world

Col 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ

Who gave us the Golden Rule to do unto others as we would have them do to us,
which is the Law and the prophets

Keep our eyes on the Lord...seek His face and not the corrupt things/systems of the world

Matt 6:19-21

Matt 6:33