



August 31, 2025  
Series: Week 11  
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[www.lebefree.org](http://www.lebefree.org)  
(NS-1)

## A GODLY PERSPECTIVE IN A FALLEN WORLD

### What's Your View on Money & Wealth?

***"Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days."*** (James 5:1-3)

- James begins with strong condemnation of the rich who were oppressing and exploiting poor believers.
- The rich were hoarding their wealth and ripping off their workers.

***"Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty."*** (James 5:4)

- The greed of the rich will testify against them, and they will be held accountable by Almighty God!
- God hears the prayers of His people as they cry out for justice.

### A Godly Perspective on Money & Wealth

- It's not a financial issue; it's a heart issue! The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. (1 Timothy 6:6-11)
- There's a connection between our hearts and what we value most. (Matthew 6:21) **(NS-2)**

### How Patient Are You?

***"Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming."*** (James 5:7)

### How to Be Patient During Times of Trouble

- Stand firm in the Lord. (5:8) Don't grumble against one another. (5:9) Do not swear. (5:12)

### Examples of Patience

- Look at the Farmer. (5:7) Look at the Prophets. (5:10) Look at the life of Job. (5:11)

### A Godly Perspective When Facing Life's Trials

- Live in constant expectation of the coming of Christ. (5:8) Jesus could come for His Church at any moment!
- Remember the Lord's awesome character. Our Heavenly Father is full of compassion & mercy! (5:11) **(NS-3)**

### How Is Your Prayer Life?

***"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."*** (James 5:16)

### When Not to Pray

- Pray in times of trouble. Pray in times of joy. (5:13) Pray in times of sickness. Pray when you need forgiveness. (5:14-15) Pray for those who wander and stray. (5:19-20)
- Pray with confidence that God hears your prayers; pray with faith that God can do anything; pray knowing that God has a plan and will certainly answer according to His will. (1 John 5:14)
- Place it all in God's hands and then trust Him with the results. He loves us more than we can imagine, and He will work all things out for His purposes, for our good, and for His glory! (Romans 8:28)
- There is never a time when it's not appropriate to pray. James tells us to pray in all circumstances! **(NS-4)**

## **Elijah, Just Like Us?**

- We might expect God to answer Elijah's prayers. Elijah was a special prophet of God.
- Yet James reminds us that Elijah was a human being just like us. (5:17) Ordinary man, extraordinary God!

## **A Godly Perspective on Prayer**

- "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)
- The "righteous" person is one who has been declared righteous by God through faith in Jesus (Romans 5:1; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

## **Chasing Wisdom is Chasing After Jesus!**

*"but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."*  
(1 Corinthians 1:24)

## **Next Steps**

1. Watch any sermon series and work through our helpful Sermon Guides by going to [www.lebefree.org](http://www.lebefree.org).
2. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-11 and Matthew 6:21. What is it you are pursuing most in your life? What is it that occupies your thoughts most often? Is your trust in your job, your paycheck, your bank account?
3. What does it mean to "live in constant expectation of the coming of Christ"? How would that look in your life?
4. How would you describe your prayer life? Here's a better question: How would God describe your prayer life? Talk with the Lord about any changes you need to make.

## **James 5:1-20 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup>Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. <sup>2</sup>Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you. <sup>7</sup>Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup>You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup>Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! <sup>10</sup>Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. <sup>12</sup>Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple "Yes" or "No." Otherwise you will be condemned. <sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. <sup>18</sup>Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. <sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, <sup>20</sup>remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.