

James 5

King James Version (KJV)

5 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. (These are rich crooks and their ill gotten gains, looking over their shoulder, waiting for the law to catch up with them)

²Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. (Ill gotten gains; not riches from honest business with God's blessings)

³Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. (They rip people off, and then hoard their riches in safes. They never help anyone else and think their riches will save them. We cannot take our worldly riches with us into heaven; only our faith and our good works)

⁴Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. (Kept back by fraud – You did not pay them fairly for their labors. You short changed them) (The LORD of Sabbath = the Lord of Hosts)

⁵Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. (a life of luxury, at the expense of those who do the work; fattened up and pampered, as a calf readied for the slaughter; these guys may be going to hell if they don't change)

⁶Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you. (The just One – Jesus Christ; HE never went after them, as they framed Him for crucifixion with false witnesses and lies)

⁷Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. (God will ensure that His plan comes to pass, just as He gives crops the early and latter rain to ensure that they produce food) (The prophets received the early rain <spiritually> and the Elect will receive the latter rain in the end times)

⁸Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. (God's plan will unfold in His time, not yours. Be patient and stay in His Word)

⁹ Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. (Be peaceful with other people – let God do the judging)

¹⁰ Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. (The prophets paid a high price in serving God. Most were persecuted or murdered)

¹¹ Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. (bad translation -> pitiful = compassionate) (Job lost his family and all that he had. He got 38 chapters of bad advice from people, but he never abandoned God)

¹² But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation. (God's Law is right vs. wrong; man's law is based on precedent, which is easily corrupted. Stay true and honest. Make no oaths, and always speak the truth)

¹³ Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. (If you're troubled, seek God. If you're happy, cheer others up)

¹⁴ Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: (sick = physically ill) (Christ <Christos in the Greek> means to anoint with oil)

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. (sick = mentally depressed or worn out)

¹⁶ Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (God hears all of our prayers)

¹⁷ Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. (Elias – Elijah in the Hebrew. He was just a man like us. It was God who made his prayers come true)

¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. (Again, he prayed, and it was God who accomplished the act)

¹⁹ Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

²⁰ Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins. (He will be redeemed of his own sins because he helped save another person)