

SERIES TITLE: WISDOM IN THE MAKING

PART FOUR: MONEY MAKING

TEXT: JAMES 5:1-6

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

James is the wisdom book of the New Testament. This series focuses on a section of the book that deals with four practical subjects: interpersonal conflict, prayer, decisions, and finances. In this text we find God's wisdom for each of these areas.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

Our final lesson from James concerns wisdom about wealth. God's wisdom regarding money is not just about how wealth is acquired or even the quantity. The real lesson is about how wealth is used to advance the Kingdom of God, particularly in relation to the oppressed.

FOCUS QUESTION

Describe the first time you can remember earning money. What did you do with the money and why?

EXAMINATION

5:1 Who qualifies as rich?

The following verses detail why the rich should "weep and howl."

5:2-3 What is James condemning here?

5:4 Why is it significant that the Lord of Hosts hears the cries of the laborers?

5:5 What does it mean to live in luxury and self-indulgence?

When is it wrong?

5:6 Who is the righteous person?

EXPLORATION

- Leviticus 19:1-16
- Proverbs 22:1-9, 16
- Amos 8:4-7
- Luke 4:14-20
- Luke 19:1-9

APPLICATION.

- Which concerns about money are legitimate and spiritually wise?
- When do our financial concerns become ungodly, and unwise?
- How can you avoid “soft-living” in a way that pleases God?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?