

Week of January 29 - The Corroded Gold | Small Group Lesson 14

Connect

Is there value in a warning that may not be directed towards you? Is there any danger in ignoring warnings that seem to have no relationship to you? Why?

Verses - James 5:1-6 (CSB)

1 Come now, you rich people, weep and wail over the miseries that are coming on you. 2 Your wealth has rotted and your clothes are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have stored up treasure in the last days. 4 Look! The pay that you withheld from the workers who mowed your fields cries out, and the outcry of the harvesters has reached the ears of the Lord of Armies. 5 You have lived luxuriously on the earth and have indulged yourselves. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned, you have murdered the righteous, who does not resist you.

Study

1. James 5:1-6 addresses those who are rich. What errors have they made in vv.1-6, and what are some results from their errors? (Some of the results of their errors are listed in the beginning.)

2. James 4 ended with warning those who put hope in their own plans to gain a profit, and not doing *good* when they knew they should (James 4:17). In each of the errors in vv.1-6, how could the rich have done *good* for God's glory?

3. Notice there are references that hint to the end times. What warnings are there in that day, for those who have hope not in the Lord, but in their wealth? What emotion should be felt for such people at the Lord's coming? Is that a good or bad thing? (Proverbs 14:27) Why is it good?

☕ **DISCUSS:** What advice, based on today's verses, would you give to someone who said to you, "I have more money than I need, brother. What should I do with it?" (Matthew 6:33; James 4:17)

🏃 **APPLY:** Do you think of yourself as wealthy? Why or why not? So, how do you measure wealth?

Share

Why is living in fear sinful in the eyes of the Lord? Why do we often fear when we lose wealth? (Isaiah 41:10; Hebrews 13:5) How should those with faith live on in sudden loss? (1 John 4:18; Psalm 23:4; Deuteronomy 31:8)

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Pray for the Lord to help us in our weaknesses and overcome fear.
- Pray for the power and in what ways you can give to the Lord.