

February 26, 2023

Respect the Workers James 5:1-6 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we start the last chapter of James. This section talks about the relationship between the rich and the workers. James condemns the rich for taking advantage of the workers and not giving them fair payment. He warns the rich that they will be judged and the things that they are hoarding will rot away. Join us this week as we talk about what will rot away and what is everlasting.



JAMES 5:1-6 NET

Warning to the Rich

1 Come now, you rich! Weep and cry aloud over the miseries that are coming on you. 2 Your riches have rotted and your clothing has become moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and silver have rusted and their rust will be a witness against you. It will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have hoarded treasure! 4 Look, the pay you have held back from the workers who mowed your fields cries out against you, and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. 5 You have lived indulgently and luxuriously on the earth. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and murdered the righteous person, although he does not resist you.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

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9.

10.

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

1. Why should the rich cry?
2. Why does James say the riches have rotted?
3. Why will the rust of the riches be a witness against the rich?
4. Does James suggest how the rich became rich?
5. What does it mean to have fattened your hearts?
6. Why do you think the rich condemned and murdered the righteous?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

7. Are all rich people bad? Explain how you can tell the difference.

8. What is the main warning that James is providing in this section?

9. How can we heed the warning? Does it require not being rich?

10. What should be our main application point from this text?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes