

# Putting FEET To Our Faith – A Study of the Book of JAMES

## James 4:13-5:20

**(chapter 4)** <sup>13</sup>Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." <sup>14</sup>Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup>Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup>As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup>Anyone, then, who knows the good he or she ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

**(chapter 5)** <sup>1</sup>Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon 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 workmen 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 innocent people, who were not opposing you.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, then, friends, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is 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 each other, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup>Friends, 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 consider 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 beloved, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.

<sup>13</sup>Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let her sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Is any one of you sick? That person should call the elders of the church to pray over him or her and anoint him or her 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 that person up. If he or she has sinned, he or she 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 man just like us. 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 friends, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him or her back, <sup>20</sup>remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his or her way will save him or her from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

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## SERMON NOTES

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## ADDITIONAL REFLECTION

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