

James

Temptations, Trials

&

Triumph

Outline of the Book:

- Trials and Truth 1:2-27
- Problems and Faith 2:1-26
- Words and Wisdom 3:1-18
- Conflicts and Submission 4:1-5:6
 - Causes of Temptations 4:1-6
 - Overcoming 4:7-10
 - Judging and Presumption 4:11-17
 - **Temptations of Hording 5:1-6**
- Overcoming 5:7-20

where we are...

- Ch 4 ended with discussions of:
 - Judgmental attitudes
 - Presumptuous attitudes
 - And the need for DOING what we know is good...
- In this last section, really a part of Ch 4...
 - He returns to an issue he has already mentioned
 - 1:10,11 – remember the flowers...
 - 2:2-4, 6 – favoritism based on wealth/position
 - Early infection of the Church with materialism...
 - Why is this issues so big a problem?

Woe to the rich?

- Christians of this time were:
 - Being oppressed and ridiculed
 - Many had lost their homes and life-styles
 - Dt 8:12-14; Ne 9:25,26; Ps 73; Je 9:23; Mt 19:23,24; Lk 12:16-21; 16:19-25; 1Ti 6:9,10
- Scripture does not condemn wealth...
- But it warns of judgment to those who hoard, are selfish, and do not use what they have for those less fortunate...
 - *klausate ololuzontes* to burst into weeping and to howl with grief - if you are hoarding money (see 4:9)

Stern Warnings

- Your miseries are coming
 - “It ain’t over till its over!” the end is at the throne...
- Rotting riches (2) *sesēpen* – corrupt
 - Riches do not last – everything has to be renovated!
 - Teddy Roosevelt's home... rotting wood!
 - Garments moth-eaten – still with tags on! (Mt 6:19)
- Rusted treasures (3) *ios* – poison - 3:8; Ro 3:13
 - Gold and Silver – all things precious
 - Hoarded wealth never does what it could have done
 - ***Schindler's List...* “the car... the ring...” 1100 Jews**

Warnings:

- Witness against you - Pr 23:3,4; 27:24;
Ecc 2:17-19; Je 17:11; 1Ti 6:6-8
- 1. It's the last days when you were hoarding!
 - Awareness of the eternity that is coming...
 - Wealth can be a hunger never satisfied... MORE...
- 2. The pay you owe the laborers (4, Lev 19:13)
 - Unpaid people cry out to God! (Mal 3:5)
 - Jewish people cried out to God (Ex 2:23, 24)
 - Prov 3:27, 28 – what does this teach about bills...
 - The Lord of Hosts (Sabaoth) – armies...

Warnings: (cont'd)

3. Luxury, wanton pleasure, fat hearts
 - Like Herod (Lk 7:25) or “gold-toilet” evangelists
 - This is the mantra of today’s TV preaching
 - How great will be the judgment?
4. Murder of the righteous (6)
 - People in power can silence the truth
 - Re-written history, suppressing truth
 - Which prophet did not fear for their life? (Mt 5:11)
 - Jn 15:18-20...
- If we follow 4:7-10, we can walk pleasing...