

**WEALTH  
WITHOUT GOD**

**James 5:1-6**

Matthew 6:24 NIV

**"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."**

“If we command our wealth,  
we shall be rich and free.  
If our wealth commands us,  
we are poor indeed.”

*--EDMUND BURKE*

“A wise person should have  
money in their head,  
but not in their heart.”

*--JONATHAN SWIFT*

James 5:1-4 ESV

**“Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence”**

James 5:3-4a ESV

**“against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud,”**

James 5:4-5 ESV

**“are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence.”**

James 5:5-6 ESV

**“You have fattened your hearts  
in a day of slaughter. You have  
condemned and murdered  
the righteous person.  
He does not resist you.”**

**1. When you misuse wealth you set  
yourself up for misery  
James 5:1**

**2. If you think you're wealth  
only belongs to you, your riches  
are doomed. James 5:2-3**

*Rotted*

*Moth-Eaten*

*Corroded*

**3. Remember – for you, these are  
your LAST DAYS.**

James 5:3c “You have laid up treasure  
in the last days.”

**IS GOD AT THE CENTER OF ALL  
YOU HAVE, DO AND ARE??**

Matthew 6:19-20 NIV

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal."

## **4. An example of Misused Wealth**

James 5:4a ESV

“Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you”

James 5:4b

**“ . . . and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.”**

Psalms 28:6-7 (NIV)

"Praise be to the LORD, for he has heard my cry for mercy. The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song."

## **5. Another example of Misused Wealth**

James 5:5 ESV

**“You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.”**

Luke 12:19 NIV

**(He said to himself) "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."**

James 5:5b ESV

**“You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.”**

James 5:6 ESV

**“You have condemned  
and murdered the  
righteous person. He does  
not resist you.”**

# 1. MONEY'S POTENTIAL

*Am I managing my wealth the way  
God would have me to?*

Matthew 6:24 NIV

**"No one can serve two masters . . . You cannot serve both God and Money."**

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

**"Honor the LORD with your wealth,  
with the firstfruits of all your crops;  
10 then your barns will be filled to  
overflowing, and your vats will brim  
over with new wine."**

## **2. MONEY'S PURPOSE**

*Am I using my wealth to serve others  
and the purposes of God?*

### **3. MONEY'S PLACE**

*Does money occupy its right  
priority in my life?*

Proverbs 23:4-5 NIV

**"Do not wear yourself out to get rich;  
have the wisdom to show  
restraint. Cast but a glance at  
riches, and they are gone, for they  
will surely sprout wings and fly off to  
the sky like an eagle."**

## 4. MONEY'S POWER

*Am I taking seriously Scripture's warnings of spiritual forces and eternal consequences involved with money?*

1 Timothy 6:10 NIV

**“The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”**

1 Timothy 6:17-19 NIV

**“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”**

1 Timothy 6:17-19 NIV

**“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”**

We fall down  
we lay our crowns  
at the feet of Jesus  
the greatness of  
mercy and love  
at the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy  
We cry holy, holy, holy  
We cry holy, holy, holy  
Is the lamb

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**James 5:1-6**