



REVIEW: Living Faith Weeps Over Wealth (James 5:1–6)

James warns that wealth without surrender brings misery. Earthly riches rot, garments decay, and gold corrodes. Hoarded wealth testifies against us because it was trusted rather than stewarded. Living faith doesn't let money sit in God's chair. Instead of hoarding or indulging, it invests resources to honor God and bless people.

Read:

Take time to slowly read these passages:

- **James 5:1–6** – Warning to the rich who hoard and oppress.
- **Matthew 6:19–24** – Treasures in heaven; you cannot serve both God and money.
- **1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19** – The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil; instruct the rich to be generous and not trust in riches.
- **Luke 12:16–21** – The parable of the rich fool.

Reflect:

- What makes me feel safe—my savings or my Savior?
- What do I fear losing more—my wealth or my walk with Christ?
- What do I grip tighter—my wallet or God's will?

Apply – Now What?

- **Confess:** Be honest with God about where you've trusted wealth instead of Him.
- **Surrender:** Pray, "Lord, this is Yours. Show me how to use it."
- **Redirect:** Take one small step this week to use your money, time, or possessions to bless someone.

Remember:

- Wealth fades. God doesn't.
- What you trust will either corrode or endure.
- The safest investment is obedience to God and generosity toward people.
- Scripture shows us men like Abraham, Job, Joseph, and Daniel—wealthy and influential—yet faithful because their trust was in God, not in riches.

Apply:

Choose one tangible action this week:

- Begin each day by praying Matthew 6:24: “Lord, help me serve You and not money.”
- Identify one area where you’ve been hoarding and release it—give, share, or use it for someone else’s good.
- Make a gratitude list, thanking God for what He’s provided instead of worrying about what you lack.
- Encourage someone in your church family by meeting a practical need.
- Take a step toward generosity—not out of guilt, but as a declaration that money is not your master.

Pray:

- **Confession:**

“Father, forgive me for the times I have trusted wealth instead of You. Forgive me for hoarding or indulging rather than stewarding.”

- **Dependence:**

“Teach me to trust You with my security. Help me to remember that riches corrode, but You never fade.”

- **Surrender:**

“I place my resources in Your hands. Use my time, possessions, and influence to glorify You and bless others.”

PREVIEW: Living Faith Waits with Patience (James 5:7–12)

Next James encourages believers to endure hardship with patience, looking to the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the harvest; we wait for Christ. Living faith doesn’t grasp for control—it endures with trust and hope.

Read ahead:

- **James 5:7–12** – Be patient until the coming of the Lord.
- **Hebrews 10:35–37** – Endurance brings reward; He who is coming will come.
- **Romans 12:12** – Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Think Ahead:

- Where is God calling me to exercise patience right now?
- How does keeping my eyes on Christ’s return reshape my perspective on suffering?