

Living Faith Goes to Work

# JAMES 5:7-11

Faith's Patience Amid Opposition



# General Douglass MacArthur

I shall return







People of the  
Philippines, I  
have returned!



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## Situation in James

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings. <sup>2</sup>Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

James 1:1-2

## Understanding the Situation in James 5:1-6

1. James is speaking to the rich who are oppressing people.
2. James is using a rhetorical device practiced by the OT prophets.
3. James's purpose is to COMFORT & SANCTIFY.

<sup>1</sup>Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.



<sup>5</sup>You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

James 5:1-6

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

<sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.



<sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

James 5:7–11

# Faith in the face of opposition

Put on patience with an eye to the return Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord.

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<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient.



Strengthen our faith in Christ.

<sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

# Establish your hearts

The heart is the whole of our inner being—including the mind (what we know), desires (what we love), and will (what we choose).

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,  
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control;  
against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22–23a



Strengthen our faith in Christ.

<sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Put off grumbling knowing there is a judgment.

<sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another,  
brothers, so that you may not be judged;  
behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

Be encouraged by others.

<sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.



Be encouraged by others.

<sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who **remained steadfast**. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Though he slay me, I will hope in him...”

Job 13:15

<sup>25</sup>For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. <sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, <sup>27</sup>whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. ...”

Job 19:25–27a

Be encouraged by others.

<sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who **remained steadfast**. You have heard of the steadfastness of **Job**, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.



