

A Practical Study of JAMES: The Battle of Our Behavior

SESSION #11: James 5:7-12

"His Re-Entry Is On Schedule"

Key Verse: *5:8 You also be patient, strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near.*

Memory Verse: James 5:8

TEXT:

v. 7 Have patience, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer is waiting expectantly for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently over it until it receives an early and a late rain.

v. 8 You also be patient; strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near.

v. 9 Stop complaining, brethren, about one another, in order that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing now before the doors.

v.10 As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

v.11 Behold, we are considering fortunate those who showed endurance. You heard of the patience of Job and you saw the outcome which the Lord brought about because the Lord is sympathetic and compassionate.

v.12 But especially, my brethren, stop swearing, neither by the heaven nor by the earth nor by any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, in order that you may not fall under judgment.

Feb. 1, 2003 Columbia Disaster!

Evelyn Husband

13

The Longest Day

If this thing doesn't come out right, don't worry about me; I'm just going on higher.

—Michael Anderson

I LOOKED INTO THE SKY. WHERE IS THE SHUTTLE? WHERE IS Rick? What is happening? Lord, please bring them home. Where are you, Rick? Oh, Lord, please help us. Please help us. Keith was quiet as he looked at me. I had desperately wanted him to provide a logical explanation. Keith is a pilot with America West Airlines and has flown with the company more than a decade; he is no novice regarding flying. I was unaware he had been listening to communication with the *Columbia* and the subsequent loss of communication. Keith had heard his brother's last words.

We watched the landing clock count down to zero; then it started counting up again. My legs were shaky, and my ability to comprehend what was happening was impossible. Father God, what's happening? Please don't let this be real. Please help me, Lord. I could hear my heart pounding in my ears and feel the blood in my veins, a cold, icy rush that told me something horrible had happened. A huge wave of nausea hit me. People began to comment in the stands about what was happening.

"I heard someone say, 'Oh, they're always late,' or something to that effect," Steve Lindsey says. "And I thought to myself, No, we're never late; we're always exactly on time."

When the bleachers started to empty and security personnel and astronauts scrambled away from the landing site, people began to wonder what was happening but kept the unthinkable out of their minds. "We were thinking they landed at Edwards Air Force Base or

① Gal. 4:4,5

② John 9:4

③ So Teach us to number our days!...

④ Today if You hear his voice.

⑤ Now is the Accepted Time!!

Test
Temptation
word
Love
Fruit
Tongue
Wisdom
Warfare
Dependence
Wealth
urgency - coming

Introduction:

EXPOSITION:

We have been studying together in the Book of James:

POINTERS FOR PROGRESS.

One of the great motivators for Christian growth is the fact that:

the Lord is coming again and His coming is very near.

1 John 3:2-3 points up this truth:

Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children right now and we can't even imagine what it is going to be like later on. We do know this that when He comes we will be like Him as a result of seeing Him as He really is and everyone who really believes this will try to stay pure because Christ is pure.

Paul tells the Corinthians in:

2 Corinthians 7:1

Having such great promises as these, dear friends, let us turn away from everything wrong, whether of body or spirit and purify ourselves living in the wholesome fear of God, giving ourselves to him alone.

John 9:4

John 4:35

v. 7 Have patience, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer is waiting expectantly for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently over it until it receives an early and a late rain.

You sort of feel like James has dealt with all of the problems which are keeping his readers from progressing as they should and now, in his mind's eye, he can see the end of the mission, or the goal, as he comes around the last turn.

Paul says in:

1 Corinthians 9:26

Though I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step.

Philippians 3:14

I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to Heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.

The thing that is needed the most right now is:

PATIENCE TO BE FRUITFUL. II Pe. 3:9

James has already mentioned this in:

James 1:4

But let patience be having its complete work in order that you may be fully developed and complete, lacking in nothing.

Learning to wait + to Trust God's Timing!!

The **COMMAND** here is to:

* **"HAVE PATIENCE, THEREFORE, BRETHREN UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD."**

He, then **ILLUSTRATES** what he means by **"PATIENCE:"**

"BEHOLD THE FARMER IS WAITING EXPECTANTLY FOR THE PRECIOUS FRUIT OF THE EARTH. WAITING PATIENTLY OVER IT UNTIL IT RECEIVES AN EARLY AND A LATE RAIN."

The **"EARLY RAIN"** came in:

November or

December.

The **"LATE RAIN"** came in:

March or

April.

1. Define the **RAPTURE** – 1 Thessalonians 4; John 14; 1 Corinthians 15

2. Not **SECOND COMING**

Paul, in writing to Timothy, makes reference to a **FARMER** in:

2 Timothy 2:6

Work hard like a farmer who gets paid well if he raises a large crop.

v. 8 You also be patient; strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near.

Reason

This is the KEY VERSE in our 11TH POINTER FOR PROGRESS:

HIS RE-ENTRY IS ON SCHEDULE.

James suggests TWO THINGS here. That we:

1. "BE PATIENT" in view of His coming.
2. "STRENGTHEN OUR HEARTS BECAUSE THE COMING OF THE LORD IS NEAR."

"Your courage & Purpose Firm"

Psalm 27:14

Don't be impatient, wait for the Lord
and He will come and save you.

Be brave, stout hearted and courageous.

Yes, wait and He will help you.

Dr. J. Sidlow Baxter gave this illustration of the second coming of Christ:

A Scotsman and his two sons were returning from a fishing trip. The younger son said: "I can see her now, my precious wife, waiting at home for me. Oh, yes, she is indeed a faithful one." The older son said: "My wife will not only be waiting, but she will be perched on the windowsill watching for me to come home. That is what I call faithfulness." The father Scotsman said: "Sons, I can show you where your mother, bless her dear heart, will excel them both. She will not only be waiting and watching for me to come home, but she will be fixing my dinner as well." We should be watching, waiting and working until our Lord comes.

Occupying till He comes – (on schedule & on target).

STRENGTH

Colossians 1:11

strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Isaiah 40:31

but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2 Corinthians 12:9

And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Paul, in writing to the Philippians, reminds them in:

Philippians 1:6

to be confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in them will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Or, that is, until His coming.

Because His coming is near, it behooves us to be found:

FAITHFUL, Fruitful, Finishing,
WAITING,
WATCHING, and
WORKING.

Persevering
 Pressing on
 Paying The Price.

Focused on
 Jesus!!

Even the horses recognize when they are on the way home and they are getting close to the barn.

v. 9 Stop complaining, brethren, about one another, in order that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing now before the doors.

James has to remind them once again to "STOP COMPLAINING . . . ABOUT ONE ANOTHER."

Present Negative: They are doing it!

He has already had a great deal to say about this in James 4. The REASON he says this is:

"IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY NOT BE JUDGED."

- You don't want to get caught criticizing

Then he adds that STATEMENT OF URGENCY:

"BEHOLD THE JUDGE IS STANDING NOW BEFORE THE DOORS."

The coming of the Lord will be a great experience for those who are GROWING for He comes to them as a BRIDEGROOM.

But to those who are GRUMBLING, He comes as a JUDGE.

Paul says to the Philippians in:

Philippians 2:14-16

And in everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and stubborn. Shine out among them as beacon lights and hold up to them the word of life. Then, when Christ returns, how glad I will be that my work among you was so worthwhile.

Math. 7:1 "Stop Judging others, And You will Not be Judged. why worry About th^e Speck in Your brother's eye, when You have a log sticking out of Your own.

v.10 As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

James now is going to give us TWO EXAMPLES of:

ENDURANCE FROM HUMAN LIFE.

The first illustration that he gives is of:

"THE PROPHETS WHO SPOKE IN THE NAME OF THE LORD."

Matth. 5: 11, 12: "Blessed are you when men revile you & persecute you & say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice & be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

1 Cor. 15:58
Heb. 10:36

① Struggled
② Stayed by the storm
Perseverance
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v.11 Behold, we are considering fortunate those who showed endurance. You heard of the patience of Job and you saw the outcome which the Lord brought about because the Lord is sympathetic and compassionate.

Here James gives us the SECOND ILLUSTRATION of PATIENT ENDURANCE and he uses JOB as his illustration.

It was Job who said in:

① When He has Tested me...

② I Know...

Job 13:15

Though he slay me, yet will I trust in Him.

Barrett says:

If you don't believe it, read the Book of Job.

In the prologue we find that Job's problems were all planned in the Councils of Heaven before he ever knew he was going to have them. And in the epilogue, we find that their final outcome was a blessing. In between these two points we have a group therapy session. In this case, a group of wiseacres pooling their ignorance. Their theorizing and philosophizing are learned and eloquent as far as they go but because they are doing it from incomplete premises, they can go nowhere but around in circles. The prologue and epilogue are the unknown quantities and it isn't until Job turns his eyes to God that the whole thing makes sense.

Rom. 8:28

The outcome which the Lord brought about is mentioned in:

Job 42:10, 12

And the Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends . . . Also, the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning. For he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels and 1,000 yoke of oxen and a thousand she asses.

This is the **REASON** James can say:

"THE LORD IS SYMPATHETIC AND COMPASSIONATE."

Patience / Patient Endurance

vs.

1. Critical Attitude
2. Profanity

Response

vs.

Reaction

v.12 But especially, my brethren, stop swearing, neither by the heaven nor by the earth nor by any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, in order that you may not fall under judgment.

James is saying here that when you get into a tough situation, it is better to USE PATIENCE RATHER THAN PROFANITY:

"IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY NOT FALL UNDER JUDGMENT."

It is the SPIRIT OF GOD that can produce the PATIENT ENDURANCE in view of the coming of the Lord.

It is the FLESH that will burst forth in PROFANITY.

Barclay points out that:

What he means is that of all the manifestations of impatience in times of stress and affliction, the most frequent is taking the Lord's name in vain by use of explosive utterances and hasty and irreverent oaths.

Jesus said in:

**Matthew 5:37*

Say just a simple yes I will, or no I won't. To strengthen your promise with a vow shows that something is wrong.

TEN REASONS WHY I DON'T SWEAR

1. It pleases mother so much.
2. It is a fine mark of manliness.
3. It proves I have self-control.
4. It indicates how clearly my mind operates.
5. It makes my conversation so pleasing to everybody.
6. It leaves no doubt in anyone's mind as to my good breeding.
7. It impresses people that I have more than ordinary education.
8. It is an unmistakable sign of culture and refinement.
9. It makes me a very desirable person among women and children and in respectable society.
10. It is my way of honoring God who said: "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

Acts 4:12

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

CONCLUSION:

Recognizing the fact that **HIS RE-ENTRY IS ON SCHEDULE**, it behooves us to live a life of purity – watching, waiting and working – knowing that “when He shall appear, we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is.”

Purity & Patience

vs.

Critical Attitude

Profanity

Maturity reflected in Purity and Patience due to His Coming.

1. Test
2. Tempt
3. Word
4. Love
5. Fruit
6. Tongue
7. Judgment
8. Warfare
9. Dependence
10. Wealth
11. Urgency because of Coming

CONCLUSION:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Our maturity in Christ is reflected in our attitude to His coming.

LESSON #2: Is my life characterized by purity and patience today?

LESSON #3: Is my life characterized by a critical attitude and outbursts of profanity?

-
- ① Fri day After noon After Ministry Meeting!
 - ② P.K. Pretty Kitty, Preacher's Kid.
 - ③ 11 yrs For the three of us.
 - ④ went to the vet.
 - ⑤ Decision had to be made.
 - ⑥ Bawl'n like A Couple of Kids.
 - ⑦ Can You imagine how the Father Felt when His son says : IF it is possible . . .
 - ⑧ "We Are Never going through this Again"
 - ⑨ Lord said : Neither Am I ! I don't have to Once is enough ! The debt has been Fully Paid !

#218
Jesus Paid it All

STUDY # 11
HIS RE-ENTRY IS ON SCHEDULE 5:7-12

KEY VERSE: 5:8 You also be patient, strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near.

MEMORY VERSE: 5:8

TEXT: 5:7-12

Have patience, therefore, brethren until the coming of the Lord. Behold the farmer is waiting expectantly for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently over it until it receives an early and late rain. You also be patient, strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near. Stop complaining, brethren, about one another in order that you not be judged. Behold the judge is standing now before the doors. As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we are considering fortunate those who showed endurance. You heard of the patience of Job and you saw the outcome which the Lord brought about because the Lord is sympathetic and compassionate. But especially, my brethren stop swearing neither by the heaven nor by the earth nor by any other oath but let your yes be yes, and your no be no in order that you may not fall under judgment.

EXPOSITION: We have been studying together in the Book of James Pointers for Progress. One of the great motivators for Christian growth is the fact that the Lord is coming again and his coming is very near. 1 John 3:2-3 points up this truth "Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children right now and we can't even imagine what it is going to be like later on. We do know this that when He comes we will be like Him as a result of seeing Him as He really is and everyone who really believes this will try to stay pure because Christ is pure."

1. Paul tells the Corinthians in II Corinthians 7:1 "Having such great promises as these, dear friends, let us turn away from everything wrong, whether of body or spirit and purify ourselves living in the wholesome fear of God, giving ourselves to him alone."

Verse Seven: Have patience, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold the farmer is waiting expectantly for the precious fruit of the earth. Waiting patiently over it until it receives an early and a late rain.

1. You sort of feel like James has dealt with all of the problems which are keeping his readers from progressing as they should and now, in his mind's eye, he can see the end of the mission, or the goal, as he comes around the last turn. Paul says in I Corinthians 9:26 "Though I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step." Phillipians 3:14 "I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to Heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us."
2. * The thing that is needed the most right now is patience to be faithful. James has already mentioned this in Chapter 1:4 "But let patience be having its complete work in order that you may be fully developed and complete, lacking in nothing." The command here is to have patience, therefore, brethren until the coming of the Lord.
3. He, then illustrates what he means be patience: "Behold the farmer is waiting expectantly for the precious fruit of the earth. Waiting patiently over it until it receives an early and a late rain."
4. The early rain came in November or December and the later rains came in March or April.

① Define the rapture I thess. 4 ; Jn. 14: I Cor. 15
 ② Not Second Coming

II Tim.

5. Paul in writing to Timothy makes reference to a farmer in Chapter 2:6.

"Work hard like a farmer who gets paid well if he raises a large crop."

Verse Eight: You also be patient, strengthen your hearts, because the coming of the Lord is near. ① Anticipation ② in the word. ③ action

1. This is the key verse in our 11th Pointer for Progress His Re-entry is on Schedule.

James suggests two things here. First of all, that we "be patient" in view of his coming. And secondly, that we "strengthen our hearts" because the coming of the Lord is near.

2. Psalm 27:14 "Don't be impatient, wait for the Lord and He will come and save you. Be brave, stout hearted and courageous. Yes, wait and He will help you."

3. Dr. J. Siedlow Baxter gave this illustration of the second coming of Christ. "A Scotsman and his two sons were returning from a fishing trip. The younger son said: 'I can see her now, my precious wife, waiting at home for me. Oh, yes, she is indeed a faithful one.' The older son said: 'My wife will not only be waiting, but she will be perched on the windowsill watching for me to come home. That is what I call faithfulness.' The father Scotsman said: 'Sons, I can show you where your mother, bless her dear heart, will excel them both. She will not only be waiting and watching for me to come home, but she will be fixing my dinner as well.' We should be watching, waiting and working until our Lord comes." Occupying Till He Comes. (On schedule + on target.)

4. Paul, in writing to the Philippians, reminds them "to be confident of this very thing that He which hath begun a good work in them will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Or, that is, until His coming.

5. Because His coming is near, it behooves us to be found faithful, waiting, watching and working. Even the horses recognize when they are on the way home and they are getting close to the barn.

Verse Nine: Stop complaining, brethren, about one another in order that you may not be judged. Behold the Judge is standing now before the doors.

1. James has to remind them once again to stop complaining about one another. He has already had a great deal to say about this in Chapter 4. The reason he says this is in order that you may not be judged. Then he adds that statement of urgency: "Behold the Judge is standing now before the doors." The coming of the Lord will be a great experience for those who are growing for He comes to them as a bridegroom, but to those who are grumbling, He comes as a Judge.

2. Paul says to the Philippians in Philippians 2:14-16 "And in everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and stubborn. Shine out among them as beacon lights and hold up to them the word of life. Then, when Christ returns, how glad I will be that my work among you was so worthwhile."

Verse Ten: As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

1. James now is going to give us two examples of endurance from human life. The first illustration that he gives is of the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord

Strength
Col. 1:11
Ph. 1:4:13
ISA. 40:31
II Cor. 12:9

Gal. 4:4,5

Verse Eleven: Behold we are considering fortunate those who showed endurance. You have heard of the patience of Job and you saw the outcome which the Lord brought about because the Lord is sympathetic and compassionate.

1. Here James gives us the second illustration of patient endurance and he uses Job as his illustration.
2. It was Job who said "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in Him."
3. Barrett says: "If you don't believe it, read the Book of Job." In the prologue we find that Job's problems were all planned in the Councils of Heaven before he ever knew he was going to have them. And in the epilogue, we find that their final outcome was a blessing. In between these two points we have a group therapy session. In this case, a group of wiseacres pooling their ignorance. Their theorizing and philosophizing are learned and eloquent as far as they go but because they are doing it from incomplete premises, they can go nowhere but around in circles. The prologue and epilogue are the unknown quantities and it isn't until Job turns his eyes to God that the whole thing makes sense.
4. The outcome which the Lord brought about is mentioned in Job 42:10 and 12: "And the Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends." Also, the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had had before. So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning. For he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels and 1,000 yoke of oxen and a thousand she asses."
5. This is the reason James can say "The Lord is sympathetic and compassionate."

Verse Twelve: But especially, my brethren, stop swearing neither by the heaven nor by the earth nor by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no in order that you may not fall under judgment.

James is saying here that when you get into a tough situation, it is better to use patience rather than profanity in order that you may not fall under judgment.

It is the spirit of God that can produce the patient endurance in view of the coming of the Lord and it is the flesh that will burst forth in profanity. Barclay points out that what he means is that of all the manifestations of impatience in times of stress and affliction, the most frequent is taking the Lord's name in vain by use of explosive utterances and hasty and irreverent oaths.

Jesus said, in Matthew 5:37 "Say just a simple yes I will, or no I won't. To strengthen your promise with a vow shows that something is wrong."

Ten reasons why I swear: First of all, it pleases mother so much. Second, it is a fine mark of manliness. Third, it proves I have self control. Fourth, it indicates how clearly my mind operates. Fifth, it makes my conversation so pleasing to everybody. Sixth, it leaves no doubt in anyone's mind as to my good breeding. Seventh, it impresses people that I have more than ordinary education. Eighth, it is an unmistakable sign of culture and refinement. Nine, it makes me a very desirable person among women and children and in respectable society. Ten, it is my way of honoring God who said: "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

Acts 4:12

Patience vs. Critical Att.
 ① Critical Att.
 ② Profanity
 Patient endurance vs. Reaction
 ③ Profanity
 ④ Patient endurance
 ⑤ Reaction

CONCLUSION: Recognizing the fact that His re-entry is on schedule, it behooves us to live a life of purity -- watching, waiting and working knowing that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is.

Purity & Patience
vs.
Critical attitude
Profanity.

Maturity reflected in Purity & Patience
do to his coming.

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| ① Test | ⑥ Tongue |
| ② Tempt. | ⑦ Judgement |
| ③ Word | ⑧ Warfare |
| ④ Love | ⑨ Dependence |
| ⑤ Fruit | ⑩ Wealth |
| | ⑪ Urgency because of coming |

Lessons:

- #1 Our maturity in Christ is reflected in our attitude to His coming.
- #2 Is my ^{life} characterized by purity & patience today?
- #3 ~~Is~~ is life "by a critical attitude & outbursts of profanity?"

~~Is~~