

Faith Works  
James 4:11 – 5:6  
March 18, 2014

I. Reprise

A. Community Conflict

1. Much of which had to do with...
  - a. Ill-advised \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Stemming from pride, \_\_\_\_\_, and double-mindedness
  - c. Which led to \_\_\_\_\_ within the church
2. James ties it all together with this section on \_\_\_\_\_

II. Do Not Slander – James 4:11-12

A. Exhortation

1. One reason why slander is \_\_\_\_\_ (Vs. 11)
  - a. We stand in \_\_\_\_\_ not only of that believer but also of the law
2. The Law
  - a. The law as given by \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The \_\_\_\_\_ law
3. Judging the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. When we speak against a brother or sister in Christ, we are not acting in \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Therefore, we are essentially saying that the law of love is not valuable or \_\_\_\_\_ enough for us to keep
  - c. Over and over James has told us that true faith exhibits \_\_\_\_\_ to God
4. Another \_\_\_\_\_ it's wrong – Vs. 12
  - a. Only \_\_\_\_\_ has the right to judge

B. Judgment

1. We are called to speak \_\_\_\_\_ to one another in love – Eph. 4:15
2. We are called to exercise church \_\_\_\_\_ – Matt. 18 & 1 Cor. 5

3. BUT...when we \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ about someone else to others, James plainly says it is sin and a type of judgment we are not qualified to dispense

### III. Arrogant Planning – Vv. 13-17

#### A. The Next Two Paragraphs

##### 1. Similarities

- a. Both begin with the words, “Now \_\_\_\_\_.”
- b. Both directed at \_\_\_\_\_ people
- c. Both are \_\_\_\_\_ of their attitudes & behavior

#### B. “You Who Say...”

##### 1. Merchant class

##### 2. Were they Christians?

#### C. Underlying Attitude

##### 1. One that leaves \_\_\_\_\_ out of the equation

- a. And instead relies on one’s own abilities, \_\_\_\_\_, and efforts

##### 2. This is \_\_\_\_\_

##### 3. The problem is not \_\_\_\_\_, nor is it the making of \_\_\_\_\_

##### 4. The problem is conducting one’s affairs as if there is no \_\_\_\_\_ God

#### D. Reminder of the Fragility and Brevity of Life

1. Essentially James is saying, “You think you \_\_\_\_\_ the course of human events? You don’t even know if you’ll be alive \_\_\_\_\_!”

#### E. “If the Lord Wills...”

##### 1. “Lord”

- a. Not the \_\_\_\_\_ or even \_\_\_\_\_, but rather, “Lord”

##### 2. Not some \_\_\_\_\_ saying

##### 3. A proper \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Considers whether our plans are \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord

- b. And then \_\_\_\_\_ them to God to do with what he pleases

#### F. Boasting and Bragging – Vs. 16

##### 1. Root problem: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Bragging about their own \_\_\_\_\_ and resources

3. All such boasting is \_\_\_\_\_

a. Very strong \_\_\_\_\_

4. James is telling us once again not to take on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the culture

#### G. Sins of Omission – Vs. 17

1. He has exhorted them to take the Lord into consideration in all their \_\_\_\_\_

a. They now have no \_\_\_\_\_ for failing to do so

b. To fail to do what we know we should do is \_\_\_\_\_

#### IV. Misuse of Wealth – James 5:1-6

##### A. Is James Addressing Christians?

1. Many theologians believe this paragraph addresses the same kind of people as the last because both paragraphs begin with the words, “Now listen...”

a. Some say both paragraphs address \_\_\_\_\_

b. Others say they both address \_\_\_\_\_

2. However, there are major \_\_\_\_\_ between the passages

a. Whereas in 4:13-17, James wrote as a \_\_\_\_\_ chastising his children, here he takes on the mantle and language of a \_\_\_\_\_

b. There is also a difference in the \_\_\_\_\_ he is addressing

i. \_\_\_\_\_ in the last paragraph

ii. Wealthy \_\_\_\_\_ in this

c. Why they were \_\_\_\_\_

i. For arrogantly making \_\_\_\_\_ as though God were not sovereign in the last paragraph

ii. For the vast accumulation and \_\_\_\_\_ of wealth

d. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the condemnation and punishment

3. So...are they Christians or not?

a. If the condemnation here is eternal \_\_\_\_\_, then the addressees cannot be Christians

b. If the condemnation is \_\_\_\_\_ in this world or something less than eternal damnation, then they might be Christians in need of a severe wake-up call

4. Why would James write non-Christians in a \_\_\_\_\_ to Christians?

a. Perhaps to encourage his readers to not \_\_\_\_\_ the wealth of such people

- b. Or to encourage them as they face \_\_\_\_\_ from such people
5. So...are they Christians or not?
- a. It is likely they are \_\_\_\_\_ true Christians

6. We need to take James's words \_\_\_\_\_ here

B. God's Concern for the Poor

1. Throughout both \_\_\_\_\_

2. Even if we think, "Well, I'm not \_\_\_\_\_ the poor!"

C. For What Are They Condemned

1. Selfishly \_\_\_\_\_ wealth – Vv. 2-3

- a. Which is \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ their workers – Vs. 4

3. Living a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle – Vs. 5

4. \_\_\_\_\_ the "righteous" – Vs. 6

D. They Will Be Judged

1. "You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter."

E. Condemned and Murdered

1. The practical outcome

F. "He Does Not Resist You"

1. Probably a \_\_\_\_\_ translation

2. They don't resist because they \_\_\_\_\_

3. They are helpless \_\_\_\_\_

V. Conclusion

A. True Treasure

1. James says that the very transitory nature of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wealthy condemns them

- a. It \_\_\_\_\_ against them

2. Because by trusting in what does not \_\_\_\_\_ instead of the \_\_\_\_\_ God, these people demonstrate where they have put their \_\_\_\_\_ and their trust

- a. They have focused on \_\_\_\_\_ treasure rather than \_\_\_\_\_ treasure

3. Matthew 6:19-21

- a. Whatever we treasure most \_\_\_\_\_ the condition of our hearts
- b. If we treasure possessions...they are \_\_\_\_\_
- c. If we treasure God and his Word and his ways, that is \_\_\_\_\_

4. Eternal Investments

- a. Only three things are eternal

B. Suffering Loss – 1 Cor. 3:11-15

C. A Powerful Picture of Regret