

Faith Works
James 5:7-20
March 25, 2014

I. A Look Back – James 5:1-6

A. Rebuke

1. Arrogant _____
2. Hording and _____ wealth

B. Transition – Vs. 7

1. Be _____
 - a. God is _____
 - b. The wealthy will be _____
 - c. And you will not always _____

2. Brothers

- a. James _____ to his customary address
- b. These words are for his _____

II. Persevering With Patience – Vv. 7-11

A. Example of Patience: The Farmer – Vs. 7

1. As the farmer waits patiently for the rains to grow his crops, we are to wait patiently for the _____ coming
 - a. The farmer could not affect the _____ very much
 - b. All he could do is _____
 - c. But he knew the _____ would come
2. James is also alluding to God's _____

3. The Lord's coming – parousia

- a. The _____ of Jesus
- b. At which time he will _____ unbelievers and _____ the saints

4. "Until" – theos

- a. Suggests a _____ as well as a period of time
- b. "Exercise patience as you _____ for and look for the coming of the Lord."
- c. This is confident _____

B. Be Patient and Stand Firm – Vv. 8-9

1. "Stand _____"
 - a. Literally means "_____ your hearts"

- b. Used frequently in the context of enduring _____
2. The Lord's coming is " _____ "
 - a. Just means it could happen at _____ time
 - b. Therefore, live in _____ of Christ's return
 3. Don't _____ against each other
 - a. Fitting this with the context
 - i. Sinful _____
 - ii. This sort of thing is most likely to happen when we face _____
 - b. James's readers faced trials and persecution

C. The Example of the Prophets and Job – Vv. 10-11

1. The suffering of the _____
2. James is telling us the same thing Jesus told us: we will _____
 - a. And we are to _____ under it
3. Job
 - a. Seems an _____ choice
 - b. However, Job never abandoned his _____
4. What the Lord brought _____ - telos
 - a. Can mean _____ or _____
5. James's point
 - a. "Your present suffering is not the ' _____ ' of the story; God will transform your situation for _____ when Christ is revealed in glory."
6. Why will he do this and how do we know he will do this?
 - a. Because the Lord is full of _____ and _____

III. Concluding Exhortations – Vv. 12-20

A. Avoid Oaths – Vs. 12 –

1. _____ all

- a. Doesn't mean, "Most _____,"
 - b. It means, " _____,"
2. What James means by "swearing"
- a. He is not talking about _____
 - b. Rather, he's talking about an _____ where one invokes God's name as a guarantee of _____
3. Why oaths?
- a. In keeping with his emphasis on _____
 - b. The pinnacle of personal _____
4. What is James forbidding
- a. Not all oaths are forbidden in _____
 - b. James is addressing a couple things here
 - i. Swearing by something _____ than God so as to be able to not be completely truthful
 - ii. James is addressing _____ oaths rather than official oaths
5. James's point

B. Prayer and Healing – Vv. 13-16

1. New Testament letter _____
- a. An exhortation to _____ is common
2. "Trouble"
- a. Verb form of the word in vs. 10 used to describe the _____ of the prophets
 - b. So James obviously has _____ and suffering in mind
3. How are we to respond?
- a. We are to _____
4. Prayer for _____
- a. Pray over
 - b. Anointing with _____
 - i. Most likely a symbolizing consecration – setting apart for God and his _____
5. The prayer will make the sick person _____
- a. The Lord will _____ him up

- b. Could mean in the _____, but more likely means physical restoration
- 6. The prayer offered in _____
 - a. What it can't mean
 - i. The person or those praying need to have enough _____
 - b. Then what does it mean?
 - i. It means the prayer offered with an understanding of God's _____
 - c. Similar to asking for something "in Jesus' name" (John 14:14)
 - i. It means to ask for something according to his _____
- 7. Therefore... _____ your sins?
 - a. James recognizes that sometimes our sickness and trials are due to our own _____
- 8. Consider how such authenticity would _____ a community of believers

C. The Prayer of the Righteous Person – Vs. 16

- 1. The righteous person is one who has been made _____ with God
 - a. Which is _____ believer
- 2. The point isn't our righteousness...nor is it the greatness of our faith
 - a. It is the _____ of our God

D. The Example of Elijah – Vv. 17-18

- 1. No Super _____
 - a. He was a man just like _____
- 2. Elijah put his _____ in God
- 3. He " _____ with prayer"
 - a. And God showed up in a _____ way

4. James is telling us _____ will show up for us too

IV. A Call to Action – Vv. 19-20

A. Fitting Ending

1. Unlike other New Testament letters

2. James ends with a call to _____

a. To care for the spiritual _____ of others

3. Very fitting for the letter with more _____ per word than any other NT book!

B. Restoration

1. If someone wanders from the _____ of the gospel

a. We are to lovingly _____ them

2. If someone is not yet _____ of the truth of the gospel

a. We are to lovingly _____ them

b. That they might be saved from an eternal _____ and their sins might be _____ by the blood of Christ

V. Conclusion

A. My Prayer for Us

1. That we would so consistently _____ the gospel in our lives, that others would be _____ to Christ

2. That we would live in such loving, patient, and authentic _____ with one another, that it would pique the interest of _____

3. That we would pray more _____ and more _____

4. And that our hearts would beat, as God's does, for those who are most _____ in our world – to such a great degree that our lives and our pocketbooks would reflect our _____