**Series: The Maturity Series**

**What The Bible Says About Wealth And Wisdom**

**James‬**



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“Come [quickly] now, you rich [who lack true faith and hoard and misuse your resources], weep and howl over the miseries [the woes, the judgments] that are coming upon you. Your wealth has rotted and is ruined and your [fine] clothes have become moth-eaten. Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. You have stored up your treasure in the last days [when it will do you no good]. Look! The wages that you have [fraudulently] withheld from the laborers who have mowed your fields are crying out [against you for vengeance]; and the cries of the harvesters have come to the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. On the earth you have lived luxuriously and abandoned yourselves to soft living and led a life of wanton pleasure [self-indulgence, self-gratification]; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and have put to death the righteous man; he offers you no resistance.”

<https://bible.com/bible/1588/jas.5.1-6.AMP>

God is not opposed to wealth.  Many of the greatest believers in the Bible were wealthy.  But God is opposed to the misuse and abuse of wealth.  James deals with the four key aspects of wealth.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ To Use Wealth

“Your wealth has rotted and is ruined and your [fine] clothes have become moth-eaten. Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. **You have stored up your treasure in the last days [when it will do you no good].”**

<https://bible.com/bible/1588/jas.5.2-3.AMP>

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it

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<https://bible.com/bible/1588/jas.5.3.AMP>

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**“Look! The wages that you have [fraudulently] withheld from the laborers who have mowed your fields are crying out [against you for vengeance];** and the cries of the harvesters have come to the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.”

<https://bible.com/bible/1588/jas.5.4.AMP>

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it

“On the earth **you have lived luxuriously and abandoned yourselves to soft living and led a life of wanton pleasure [self-indulgence, self-gratification];** you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.”

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<https://bible.com/bible/1588/jas.5.5.AMP>

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we should use wealth

“**There is precious treasure and oil in the house of the wise [who prepare for the future],** But a short-sighted and foolish man swallows it up and wastes it.”

<https://bible.com/bible/1588/pro.21.20.AMP>

“There are four things that are small on the earth, But they are exceedingly wise:”

<https://bible.com/bible/1588/pro.30.24.AMP>

1. We should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 21:20 **"The wise man saves for the future**, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets."

“Dishonest money dwindles away, **but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.”**

<https://proverbs.bible/proverbs-13-11>

1. We should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.”

<https://proverbs.bible/proverbs-13-11>

“**All hard work brings a profit**, but mere talk leads only to poverty.”

<https://proverbs.bible/proverbs-14-23>

“If you are lazy, you will never get what you are after, but **if you work hard, you will get a fortune.”**

<https://bible.com/bible/68/pro.12.27.GNT>

1. We should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“**Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”**

<https://bible.com/bible/116/pro.21.5.NLT>

1. We should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“**Give freely and become more wealthy**; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.”

<https://bible.com/bible/116/pro.11.24-25.NLT>

“Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

<https://bible.com/bible/116/mat.6.20-21.NLT>

“Jesus told this story to his disciples: “There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs. One day a report came that the manager was wasting his employer’s money. So the employer called him in and said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Get your report in order, because you are going to be fired.’ “The manager thought to himself, ‘Now what? My boss has fired me. I don’t have the strength to dig ditches, and I’m too proud to beg. Ah, I know how to ensure that I’ll have plenty of friends who will give me a home when I am fired.’ “So he invited each person who owed money to his employer to come and discuss the situation. He asked the first one, ‘How much do you owe him?’ The man replied, ‘I owe him 800 gallons of olive oil.’ So the manager told him, ‘Take the bill and quickly change it to 400 gallons.’ “‘And how much do you owe my employer?’ he asked the next man. ‘I owe him 1,000 bushels of wheat,’ was the reply. ‘Here,’ the manager said, ‘take the bill and change it to 800 bushels. ’ “The rich man had to admire the dishonest rascal for being so shrewd. And it is true that the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with the world around them than are the children of the light. **Here’s the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.** “If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.””

<https://bible.com/bible/116/luk.16.1-13.NLT>

    •    Giving should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On every Lord’s Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.

I Corinthians 16:2

    •    Giving should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bring this tithe to eat before the Lord your God at the place he shall choose as his sanctuary; this applies to your tithes of grain, new wine, olive oil, and the firstborn of your flocks and herds. The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.

Deuteronomy 14:23

Answer Key:

1. The Wrong Ways To Use Wealth
2. Hoarding It
3. Stealing It
4. Wasting It
5. Abusing It
6. The Wise Ways We Should Use Wealth
7. We Should Save Money Faithfully
8. We Should Work For Money Honestly
9. We Should Plan Spending Money Cautiously
10. We Should Give Away Our Money Generously

* Giving Should Be Regular
* Giving Should Be Righteous