***In Times Like These - James, Peter, John, Jude***

**Lesson 6**

**Riches, Patience, and Two Questions**

Read James 5

Memory Work: James 5:13-15

1. a. Why do you think James addresses the rich so harshly? James 5:1-6

b. Why are they in such trouble?

c. Make a list of their troubles.

d. Is James addressing all rich people?......If not, how can you, as a rich person, avoid these dilemmas?

e. Read verses 5 and 6 and explain them phrase by phrase as best as you are able.

f. What does God say about those who oppress the poor to make themselves rich? Deuteronomy 10:17-21; 15:10-11; 23:19-20; Ezekiel 18:12-13.

1. The “therefore” connects James 5:7-12 with James 5:1-6.
   1. Why would we be exhorted to be patient? James 5:7. See also II Peter 3:9.
   2. What does the farmer have to wait for?
   3. How is God like the farmer?
   4. What are we to do while waiting? Also use verses 9-11.
2. a. What do verses 7-12 tell us about the return of the Lord? Also see Matthew 24:26-27, 36-39.

b. Where is the Judge standing?

c. Are you ready to meet Him?.....Based on what?

4. a. Why would the Lord tell us not to swear? James 5:12. Also see Matthew 5:33-37.

b. Would this prohibit solemn oaths in court? Explain.

Think about. What do you think is the heart attitude behind oaths? Why would the Lord warn us to just say yes or no? See also Matthew 5:34-37.

5. a. What are believers to do if they are:

Suffering -

Cheerful -

Sick -

b. If a really sick person calls for the elders, but still does not get better, does this mean that he doesn’t have enough faith?

c. Does this mean the sick person shouldn’t go to a doctor?.....or take medicine?

d. If sin is involved regarding the sick person, what must he do? James 5:15-16.

e. Why would it be important for the elders to confess their sins before the anointing? See Psalm 66:18. This whole exercise is a t\_ \_ \_ effort.

f. Which Old Testament prophet was used as an example of demonstrating the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man?

g. How could Elijah pray that it wouldn’t rain for three years? See I Kings 17:1 – 18:42.

h. On what basis could Elijah pray this? Deuteronomy 11:16-17.

i. How important is it to claim the promises of God?

6. a. In a church fellowship, who has the responsibility to bring back someone who is wandering from the truth?

b. Explain James 5:20 …as best as you are able.