

James 4:13-17 New Living Translation

### Warning about Self-Confidence

**13** Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.” **14** How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone. **15** What you ought to say is, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.” **16** Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.

**17** Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

James 5:1-6 New Living Translation

### Warning to the Rich

**5** Look here, you rich people: Weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. **2** Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. **3** Your gold and silver are corroded. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh like fire. This corroded treasure you have hoarded will testify against you on the day of judgment.

**4** For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.

**5** You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. **6** You have condemned and killed innocent people,<sup>[a]</sup> who do not resist you.<sup>[b]</sup>

### Footnotes

- a. [5:6a](#) Or killed the Righteous One.
- b. [5:6b](#) Or Don’t they resist you? or Doesn’t God oppose you? or Aren’t they now accusing you before God?

### Questions:

1. What are things you dream of doing?
2. How do your dreams fit with; “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.”
3. James said, “Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”

Give an example of something good or helpful you could do for your family or friends.

4. What do you think James is saying to the rich people?
5. Is it bad to be rich or is the concern how you treat others? Explain.