

Waiting On The Lord (lesson #11)

James 5:7-11

1. How does the coming of the Lord fit into this context?

James is giving the poor saints a thought that would be a source of comfort as they were being afflicted & oppressed by the rich landowners.

2. How are poor saints to wait on the Lord?

“**Be patient**” – *makrothumeo* (mak-roth-oo-meh'-o); to be long-spirited, i.e. (objectively) forbearing or (subjectively) patient:

a. What three examples are used to illustrate this?

The **Farmer** who waits for the harvest through the early & latter rains (5:7)
The **Prophets** who suffered for speaking in the name of the Lord (5:10; name one)
The “patience” (kjv) or “perseverance” of **Job** (5:11)

“**Perseverance**” – *hupomone* (hoop-om-on-ay'); cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: “To be tested to the full extent of human ability & to have endured the trial with your faith & trust in the Lord intact.

In the end, the Lord is full of pity & mercy to the “patient” & “perseverant” soul.

b. What were they to do in their patience (5:8)?

“**Establish** your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand” – “draweth nigh” (kjv).

“**Establish**” – *eengiken*; a settled state (1 Peter 4:7; Luke 22:32; 1 Thess 3:13); we are to live in a continued expectancy of the Lord's coming as always nigh.

“**Nothing** can more 'stablish the heart' amidst troubles than His coming realized as at hand” (Jamieson, Fausset, & Brown).

c. What were they not to do in their patience (5:9)?

They were not to “grumble against one another”.

“**Grudge** not one against another” (kjv)

“Do not **complain**, brethren, against one another” (nasv)

“**Grumble**” *stenazo* (sten-ad'-zo); to make (intransitively, be) in straits, i.e. (by implication) to sigh, murmur, pray inaudibly: or to talk under your breath.

What were the consequences if they did?

(nasv) – “Do not complain, brethren, against one another, ***so that you yourselves may not be judged***; behold, ***the Judge is standing right at the door***”.

1) Judged by the same standard they were using on others

2) Judged by the Judge Who is standing at the door watching

3. Find other verses that refer to the coming (or return) of the Lord.

(2 Pet 3:3-4, 8-10, 14; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; Heb 9:27-28; 1 Thess 4:16-18; 1 Cor 11:26)

His 1st Coming:

In the weakness of flesh (Rom 8:3; Acts 8:31-33; Phil 2:7-8)

His 2nd Coming:

With His holy angels to judge the earth (Matt 25:31-32; Acts 17:30-31)

Commanding respect & a confession from everyone (Rom 14:11-12)

In clouds where every eye can see Him (Rev 1:7-8)

Time of His 2nd Coming:

As a “thief in the night” to those who aren’t prepared (1 Thess 5:1-3)

4. What series of events will take place upon His coming?

Coming in the clouds with His holy angels (Matt 25:31-32; Rev 1:7)

Descend with a shout...trumpet (1 Thess 4:16)

All in graves will hear & come forth (Jas 5:28-29)

Raised & changed at the last trumpet (1 Cor 15:50-53)

Bodies transformed to be like Christ (Phil 3:20-21; 1 Jn 3:1-2)

Earth & the works done on the earth are destroyed (2 Pet 3:10).

Gathered before Christ in judgment (sentencing; Matt 25:31-32)

Judged by works & things written in the books (Rev 20:11-15; 2 Cor 5:9-11)

Eternal separation of the righteous from the wicked (Matt 25:33-34, 41)

Kingdom delivered to God the Father (1 Cor 15:24)

5. What is our attitude toward His coming?

Read about the “faithful & wise steward” (Luke 12:42-46); the “faithful & wise servant” (Matt 24:45-51).