



James

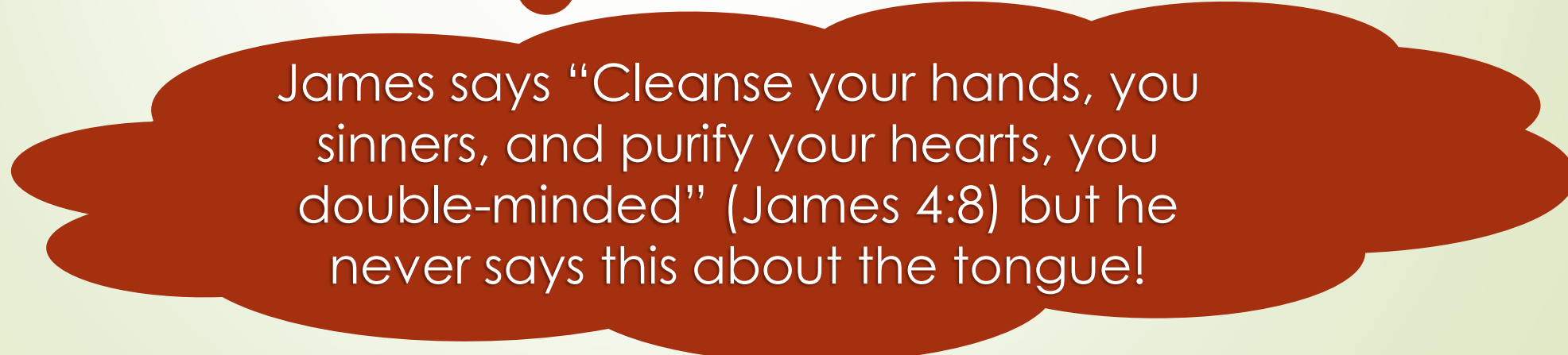
The Epistle of Straw?



Recap

James 4

- ▶ Last week, we discussed some concrete ways that Christians can use their tongue poorly, ultimately harming themselves and others.
 - ▶ Speaking evil against another
 - ▶ Boasting



James says “Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded” (James 4:8) but he never says this about the tongue!



The Rich

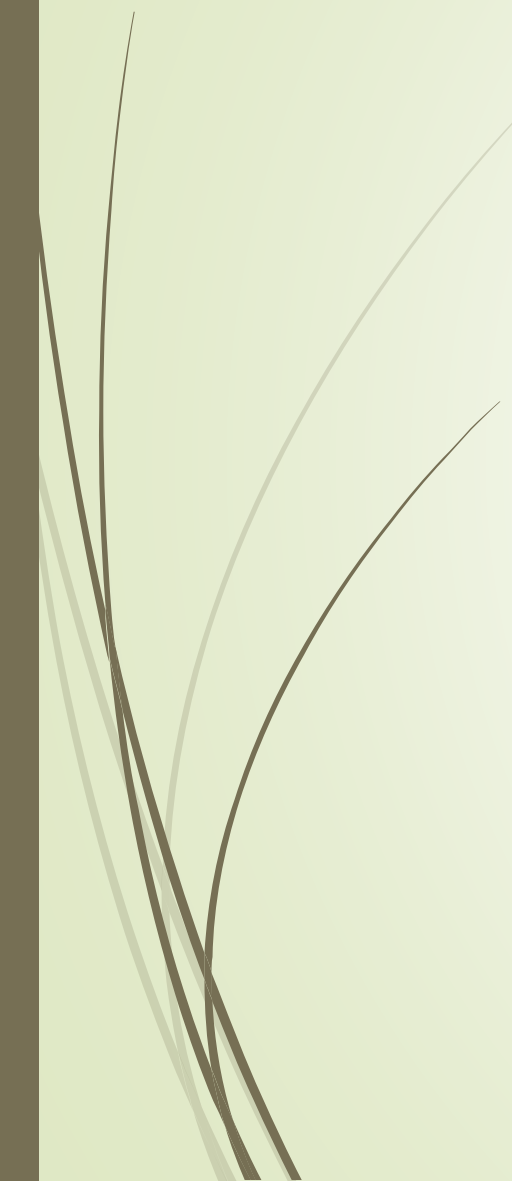
Our topic today



Weep and Howl

James 5:1-6

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you.





Is this the misery?

James 5:1-6

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ² Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver have corroded...



Oh. *This* is the misery.

James 5:1-6

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ² Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire.



The Evidence

James 5:1-6

You have laid up treasure in the last days.





The Evidence

James 5:1-6

You have laid up treasure in the last days.

⁴ Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.



The Evidence

James 5:1-6

You have laid up treasure in the last days.

⁴ Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵ You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.



And that's the end of this section.

What?!



James' Accusation:

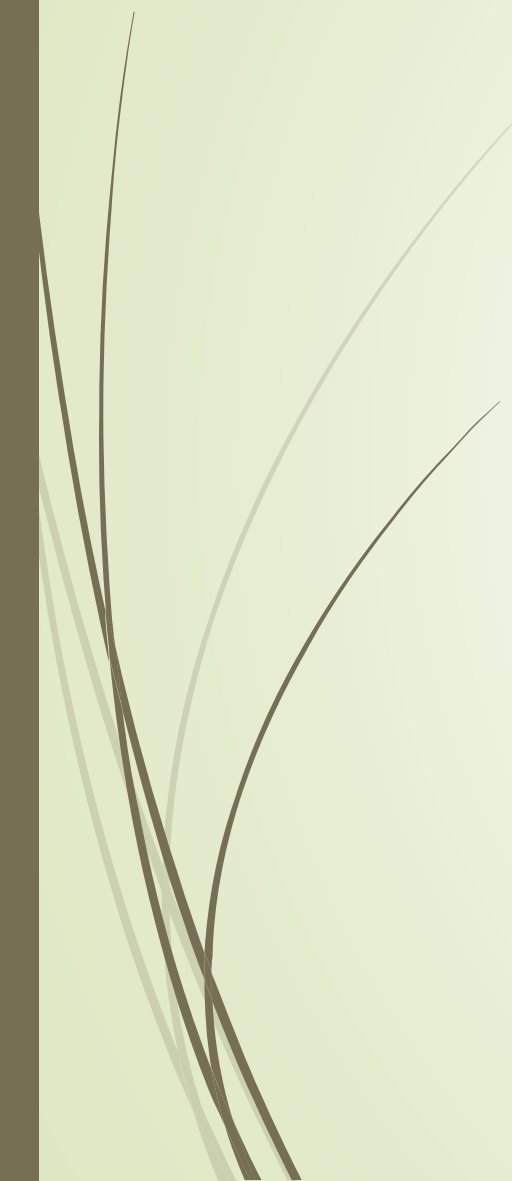
In Summary

- You have laid up treasure yourself.
- You kept back the wages from your laborers through fraud.
- You have lived in luxury and self-indulgence.
- You have fattened your hearts.
- You have condemned and murdered the righteous person.



James' Evidence

In Summary

- The rot and corrosion of your possessions
 - The wages of your laborers
 - The cries of your laborers
- 



Discussion Questions

For journaling, calling a friend, discussing with family, and prayer



Is James talking to us here?

Discussion Question




The Nature of Sin

An Exploration



What does it mean to
“fatten your hearts?”



Story-time



Does James encourage us to
do anything in this section?

Discussion Question



Patience in Suffering

Next Week...



What an odd next sentence.

James 5:7

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.



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