



THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

THIS WEEK AT THF

▶ TUESDAY

THF College - Hangout Night

Times & Locations Vary

▶ WEDNESDAY

THF Students - Worship & Small Groups

7:00pm-8:30pm ~ Doors Open at 6:30pm

▶ THURSDAY

THF Men - Bible Study & Fellowship

6:30am-7:30am

UPCOMING AT THF

▶ MAY 19

Senior Sunday

▶ MAY 26

ONE Worship Service - 9:30am

Printing Your Giving Statement

www.theheightsfellowship.org

- Visit the Website
- Click the Connect Link
- Click Online Member Portal
- Click InFellowship
- Log In or Create an Account
- Change the Year to 2023
- Click View

Please continue to check all of our social media outlets and our website for updates to weekly activities and Sunday Services.

www.theheightsfellowship.org

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

April 14, 2024

BUDGET GIVING: \$24,788.70

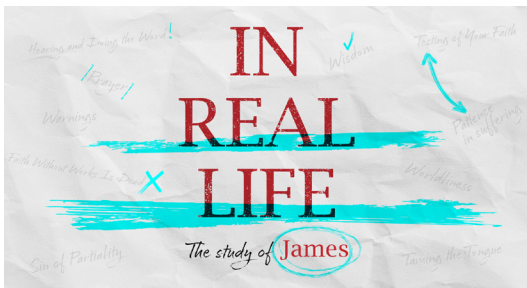
BUDGET NEEDS: \$18,919.00

YEAR TO DATE

BUDGET GIVING: \$270,491.92

BUDGET NEEDS: \$281,083.00

April 21, 2024



ZEROS BEHIND THEIR NAME

James 5:1-6

Stewardship is the area of life that tells how men make money and God makes men.

- Adrian Rogers

There are **2,781 Billionaires** in the world

They are worth a combined **\$14.2T**

813 are from the US; **473** are from China; **200** are from India

THAT'S A WHOLE LOT OF ZEROS! (Forbes.com, March 8, 2024)

In 4:11-17, James just finished an intense exhortation about

ABOUT LIVING/PLANNING LIVES WITHOUT GOD

In 5:1-6, He draws from the same principle with a rebuke

ABOUT SEPARATING RESOURCES FROM GOD

Wrong Ideas About Money

→ It can get me **HAPPINESS** Ecclesiastes 5:10-11

→ It means that I have **MADE IT** Matthew 6:19-20; Proverbs 23:5

→ It is **SINFUL**

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang.

1 Timothy 6:10

Who is James Writing To? THIS REBUKE FROM JAMES IS SCATHING

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.

James 5:1

'you rich' = *Gk:plousioi* - to abound in wealth and opulence

And now, you **plutocrats**, is the time for you to weep and moan because of the miseries in store for you!

James 5:1 php

plutocrat - someone who gets and wields power from their wealth

PLOUTOS MEANS 'WEALTH'; PLUTO - THE GREEK GOD OF THE UNDERWORLD

PO - PI (Poor outside/Poor inside spiritually)

RO - RI (Rich outside/Rich spiritually)

PO - RI (Poor outside/Rich in in Jesus)

RO - PI (Rich Outside/Bankrupt in relation to God)

1) **This is not a REBUKE on wealth...or the wealthy**

Abraham, Job, David, Daniel, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary/Martha/Lazarus, Zaccheus, Nicodemus, Lydia, Barnabas - all people of wealth

2) **This is not saying the poor go to heaven and rich go to hell**

illus: Barnabas v Ananias and Sapphira -

it as about the **ATTITUDE**, not the **AMOUNT**! Act 4:34-5:1-11

Notes from The Heights

Series: In Real Life

James is full of evidences and proofs of the **REALITY** of faith!
NOTHING REVEALS THE HEART LIKE HOW ONE SEES MONEY/POSSESSIONS

Whew! Not talking about me on this one...

These people probably didn't have a standard of living higher than most Americans...America's standard of living higher than most of the world

Don't try to get rich by extortion or robbery. And if your wealth increases, don't make it the center of your life. Psalm 62:10 nlt

James gives a shivering prediction to what happens when we do:

weep = *klaiō* - to cry freely and profusely...**OUTLOUD**

howl = *ololuzō* - shriek or scream in grief

CF LK 6:24-25; 16:20-FF

miseris = *talaipōria* - overwhelming difficulty, hardship or calamity

FOUR THINGS in our Money Management to Consider...

1- We **MANAGE** it, not **HOARD** it! vv2-3 CF MATTHEW 6:19-20

Wealth was most often measured in 'grain, garments, and gold'

— their *grain* wealth - would **rot**

— their *garment* affluence - would be **eaten by moths**

— their *gold* resources - would **tarnish/fade**

The point: Riches don't survive **WRATH** - in fact, they **MOCK** us!

2 - In a world where the bottom line is the bottom line - we need to learn to value **PEOPLE** and make them count v4

— wages '*withheld*' does not simply mean **delayed**...it means **DENIED**

— James says this does not go to the complaint department or to any court...it goes right to the very **EARS OF GOD!** **LORD OF SABAOTH**

3 - It's **YOURS...for now, but not JUST** for **YOU** v5

— They got *soft* in their wealth (*trupaoō*) = excessive luxury

— They took a deep dive into every kind of physical **INDULGENCE**

— They **FATTENED** themselves for slaughter CF JEREMIAH 46:21

ILLUS: JOHN ROCKEFELLER ULCER AND ACTS 20:35

Solomon tried this and said it was completely FUTILE

Ecclesiastes 2:4-11

4 - Be Careful of **WHAT ENDS** You'll Go to Get It v6

— James says they would **KILL** to maintain their lifestyle

condemn = *katadikazō* - to pronounce punitive sentence against

They were using the legal system to deny justice

5 Isn't it the rich who oppress you and drag you into court? 7 Aren't they the ones who slander Jesus Christ, whose noble name you bear? James 2:5-6 nlt

— **put to death** = *phoneuō* - to murder

They were effectively denying LIFE to the righteous

Notes from The Heights

Series: In Real Life

LifeNotes
Week of April 21st

What are some ways that materialism and covetousness show up in our lives?

How does greed blind us to spiritual realities?

Discuss these four financial principles for believers:

- 1 – God owns it all (all my stuff). He retains the rights to it
- 2 – We are in a growth process – money is a tool to help us gain or assume greater responsibility.
- 3 – The amount is less important. Faithfulness with what you have is most important.
- 4 – Faith requires action (*cf Matt 25:14-30*)

Look at 1 Timothy 6

Read vv 8-10 - What principles do you see regarding wealth?

Now Read vv 17-19 – What instruction to you take away from this?

Prayer Requests –