



# 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](http://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](http://www.theheightsfellowship.org)

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### April 14, 2024

*BUDGET GIVING:* \$24,788.70

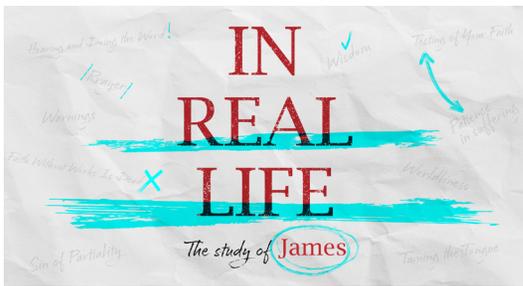
*BUDGET NEEDS:* \$18,919.00

### 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 –**