

From the Pastor:

James 5:1-6 contains a fairly lengthy passage addressing the problems of the rich. The passage clearly appears to be addressing those who are rich but not members of God's church. Members of the Church of God would not be described as these individuals in these six verses are. The passage ends with verse 6, "You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you." This obviously would not be a reference to members of God's church.

Therefore, the conclusion is that this passage is meant to help members of the Church who have suffered at the hands of the rich to realize that God will avenge them. Verse 4 reads, "Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth."

Sabaoth is of Hebrew origin. One of the meanings of "sabaoth" is "army" according to Brown, Driver, Briggs, and Gesenius Hebrew Aramaic English Lexicon (BDBG). We can see this in Judges 8:6 and Judges 9:29 where "sabaoth" is translated as "army." Therefore, the cries of those who have been oppressed by the rich have reached the ears of the Lord of the heavenly armies. The Lord will avenge them.

These rich are not clothed with righteousness as God's people are to be (Revelation 3:5; 19:8). Verse 2 records that the garments of the rich "are moth-eaten."

Being rich is not a sin. However, a problem that those who are rich can have is that they may trust in their riches instead of God (Matthew 10:24; 1 Timothy 6:17). Contrary to what many people think and say, money is not the root of all evil. The Bible in 1 Timothy 6:10 records, "For the love of money is a root of all kind of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

James in verse 3 refers to those who have "heaped up treasure in the last days." This attitude is contrary to what Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount recorded in Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." It is not wrong to have and save money. This passage is speaking of what comes out of the heart. Are we seeking to be rich, or, are we seeking to be rich toward God?

Again, James' purpose is to not warn the rich of the world in James' day for his letter would not be seen by them. Though, it would be seen by some in later generations who would read the Bible. However, this letter and this message was and is an encouragement to God's people. We must remember God knows what we face and He will avenge us if that is needed (Romans 12:19).

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



April 13, 2019

Victoria

Sermonette: Anthony Laitkep
Sermon: Jim Chapman

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: DVD-Camp Video
Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: DVD-Camp Video
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

"When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom."

Proverbs 11:2

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
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Sunset Today in:	7:52pm	7:52pm	7:53pm
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Sunset Friday 4-19	7:56pm	7:56pm	7:56pm
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Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 4/13	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Passover Service 4/18	Time for all locations is 8:00 p.m. Mr. Chapman will be in Victoria. Mr. Gatley will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Mendez will be in Harlingen.
1st Day of Feast of Unleavened Bread Sabbath 4/20	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and Corpus Christi. Mr. Chapman will be in San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Harlingen.

Black Tie Ball in Houston Area (April 27th)...Tickets On Sale Now:

The Houston COGWA congregations cordially invite you to this year's formal dinner dance which will take place Saturday evening, April 27th in Spring, Texas...just north of Houston. A fine meal, live music, dancing and fellowship with brethren at a beautiful location is a great way to conclude the spring holy days. Last year, after enjoying a lovely meal, 165 people danced the night away to a variety of music genre. You won't want to miss out this year! Seating is limited, so don't wait to purchase tickets. For additional details and to purchase tickets, please visit the event website at:

<http://buytickets.at/cogwablacktieball2019/234800>

Festival registration opens on Sunday, April 14, 2019, at 10 a.m. Eastern time:

We ask that ALL COGWA households please complete the online Festival registration—whether attending in the U.S. or internationally. If adult members in one household are attending different sites, they will need to register individually. We also ask that those NOT attending please register as well—this gives us more accurate figures for planning.

Beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern time on Sunday, April 14, members can begin accessing the <http://feast.cogwa.org> web page for Feast registration. The email address of the registrant will be used to identify that person's or family's registration account. After accessing the COGWA Feast web page, simply click on the "REGISTRATION" tab and begin the process. All registrants will receive an email verification immediately after completing the first step of registration. To complete the process, simply access that email, click on the link provided and finish your Festival registration. Their local Festival adviser will assist members without Internet access

Friday Night Live--COGWA Bible Study for Young Adults

Join us this Friday evening, April 12, for our "Friday Night Live" webcast Bible study, which will begin at 8 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (7 p.m. Central, 6 p.m. Mountain and 5 p.m. Pacific).

This month's study, presented by Joel Meeker, is titled, "Why to Wait, How to Date." Dating leading to marriage is a very important period and activity in our lives as Christians. The Bible and practical experience give us guidelines to respect in order to optimize the process of finding our soul mate and starting our marriage in the best conditions possible.

Please join Joel Meeker for this study "Why to Wait, How to Date." That's this Friday evening, April 12, at 8 p.m. Eastern time, for Friday Night Live.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be between services on the Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Night To Be Much Observed: Friday evening April 19 near sunset. Please be making individual plans if you wish.. However plans have been finalized for Luciano's Restaurant for the NTBMO for those in Corpus Christi that would like to attend. Afterwards desserts can be brought and eaten at the Mendez Home. Those in Harlingen will meet at the home of Michael Watts for this occasion.

First Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Sabbath afternoon, April 20.

Victoria: There will be one service at 10:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi: There will be one service at 3:00 p.m.

Harlingen: 10:00 a.m.

Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: Friday, April 26.

Victoria: One service at 10:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi: Combined with Harlingen at 1:00 p.m. potluck to follow.