

Temporary Treasures

James 5:1-6

Riches are long in getting with much pains, hard in keeping with much care, quick in losing with more sorrow. Riches may leave us while we live, we must leave them when we die.

-Thomas Fuller

I. **The Call**

II. The Calamity

III. The Crime

Into the Bible

Although most of us would not classify ourselves as among the world's rich, this passage indicates that it is more about our attitude towards earthly wealth than how much we have. What do these other verses say about where we place our security for the future? (Matthew 6:19-21, Ecclesiastes 5:10, 1 John 2:15-17)

God's emphasis on justice comes from his very character, why should this cause fear in those who act unjustly and abuse others? (Zephaniah 3:5, 2 Peter 2:9, Ecclesiastes 12:14)

Application

In many places in Scripture, God emphasizes our need to act fairly in giving others what they deserve. (1 Timothy 5:18, Malachi 3:5, Deuteronomy 24:14-15) But is fairness enough, what does the parable of the vineyard workers tell us about God's approach to fairness? (Matthew 20:1-16)

For Families

Talk with your children about what it means to be rich in God's eyes.