



*Pointers and questions on the book of*  
**James**

**Session 8**

**5:1-6**

**Warning to the Rich**

**Summary**

- 5:1-3** Those who put their trust in money are in for a big surprise, because their wealth can turn to nothing overnight, leaving them with nothing.
- 5:4-6** This is particularly likely when that wealth has been obtained through harsh means, depriving others and acting unrighteously.

**Questions to get you thinking**

1. Is it always wrong for a Christian to be well off financially?
2. In the light of this passage, what is it that decides whether or not a Christian's wealth is acceptable?
3. How would you square James's teaching here with Proverbs 10:22?
4. What is the difference between 'hoarding' (v3) and judicious saving?
5. Talk about the sins mentioned in v4-6 that tend to characterise those who put their trust in money. What would be the modern equivalents?
6. Look at the negative expressions in v5. Are you in danger of slipping into any of those ways?
7. In contrast to such ways, what is the right attitude towards material things? Look at Matthew 27:57-60; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 2 Corinthians 9:8-11.
8. How do you think consistent tithing and the giving of offerings can help keep our attitude to money on a sound footing?

