

**Study Questions for the March 21, 2021 Sermon:
“The Danger of Too Much”
James 5:1-6**

1. Our material wealth provides an opportunity to express our love for Christ, and to manifest the love of God for his creation. Give examples of people using money or possessions to glorify God:
 - a. From the Old Testament.
 - b. From the New Testament.
 - c. From history, current events, or our personal experience.
2. Give an example of the dire warnings of James 5:1-3 being fulfilled: (In other words, the rich and powerful being brought low and discovering their money is of no avail.)
 - a. From the Old Testament.
 - b. From the New Testament.
3. Pastor Paul cautioned us against using the opening verses in James 5 as support for our sociopolitical worldview. He challenged us to instead ask ourselves if our sociopolitical worldview is consistent with the Biblical principles. Is wrong to support your political stands with scriptures?
4. Call to mind one or two material goods/activities that bring you great joy (vacations, restaurants, jewelry, car, clothing, etc.) How do we continue to enjoy them without making them into idols?
5. Pastor Paul said we do not have to literally kill someone to be guilty of kind of murder described in verse 6; we are accountable to God if our greed is causing workers to be defrauded of their wages. How can we ensure that the people providing the products and services we buy are being fairly compensated?
6. Typically, Christians will look at their total income and ask themselves: “How much of this can I afford to give?” Pastor Paul suggested a different perspective for determining what we keep and what we give away. Summarize his suggestion.