

Last week, we talked about wisdom and learned that true wisdom comes from God, through His Word. During this week's devotion, we unpacked a bit more wisdom from James, and it gives us all something to ponder. Read: James 1:9-11

James is already talking about what hits close to home – our possessions. We all know that we aren't supposed to strive for earthly wealth or accolades, but in our world, it seems that if we have those things, then we can take care of ourselves. We can be self-reliant! But James' words about wealth echo the words of the prophet Isaiah, pointing out that things are more temporary than we would like. Read: Isaiah 40:6-8

Isaiah reminds us that the only thing that remains forever is the Word of our God. It is important that James echoes this passage from Isaiah because he is reminding us that God's Word is trustworthy. It is the wisdom that he talked about in previous verses, and while the grass will wither and the flowers fade, we can count on His Word to support us when things are difficult.

The world would say that there are many things more reliable than God's Word, but is that true? Do we boast about our good fortune and place our faith in our own wisdom and wealth? Jeremiah has a word from the Lord that clears up these questions. Read: Jeremiah 9:23-24.

If we are to boast, it is only in knowing God, understanding His holiness, and knowing of His steadfast love for us. We don't boast in our own might, but in our mighty God who is faithful to bring justice and righteousness to the earth. We will never understand His purposes and plans, but we can trust Him as our sovereign God who cares for us.

In the book of Luke, Jesus speaks to boasting about wealth. He tells the story of a farmer who builds bigger barns to hold his bountiful harvest. The farmer was more concerned about storing up treasure on earth than building a rich, eternal relationship with God. Read: Luke 12:16-21

It is easy to see the folly of the farmer until we look back at March 2020 and remember toilet paper! There are still things that are hard to find and I find myself constantly rechecking myself. Am I taking what I need? Am I storing up things and not trusting God to meet my needs? Am I robbing God of the opportunity to provide me in the future? These are timely questions, worth pondering. If God's Word is true, and if we are covered in His steadfast love, then we can trust Him to meet every need according to His riches in glory.

**Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.**

**Luke 12:33-34 (NLT)**