

Faith that Looks to Christ's Return

James 5:1-11

**Am I *ready* for
Christ's return?**

James: Keep the Faith

1: Stands the **Test**

Change of
Heart

2: Loves **Impartially**

Acts

3: Tames the **Tongue**

Shows **Wisdom**

4: **Mourns** Sin

Is **Humble**

5: Looks to Christ's
Return

1 Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you.

2 Your wealth has rotted,
and moths have eaten your clothes.

3 Your gold and silver are corroded.
Their corrosion will testify against you
and eat your flesh like fire.

James 5:1-3 (NIV) (p.1/6)

You have hoarded wealth in the last days.

4 Look! The wages you failed to pay
the workers who mowed your fields
are crying out against you.

The cries of the harvesters have reached
the ears of the Lord Almighty.

James 5:3-4 (NIV) (p.2/6)

5 You have lived on earth
in luxury and self-indulgence.
You have fattened yourselves
in the day of slaughter.

6 You have condemned and murdered
the innocent one,
who was not opposing you.

James 5:5-6 (NIV) (p.3/6)

7 Be patient, then, brothers and sisters,
until the Lord's coming.

See how the farmer waits for the land
to yield its valuable crop,
patiently waiting
for the autumn and spring rains.

8 You too, be patient and stand firm,
because the Lord's coming is near.

James 5:7-8 (NIV) (p.4/6)

9 Don't grumble against one another,
brothers and sisters, or you will be judged.

The Judge is standing at the door!

10 Brothers and sisters, as an example
of patience in the face of suffering,
take the prophets who spoke
in the name of the Lord.

James 5:9-10 (NIV) (p.5/6)

11 As you know, we count as blessed
those who have persevered.

You have heard of Job's perseverance
and have seen what the Lord
finally brought about.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

James 5:11 (NIV) (p.6/6)

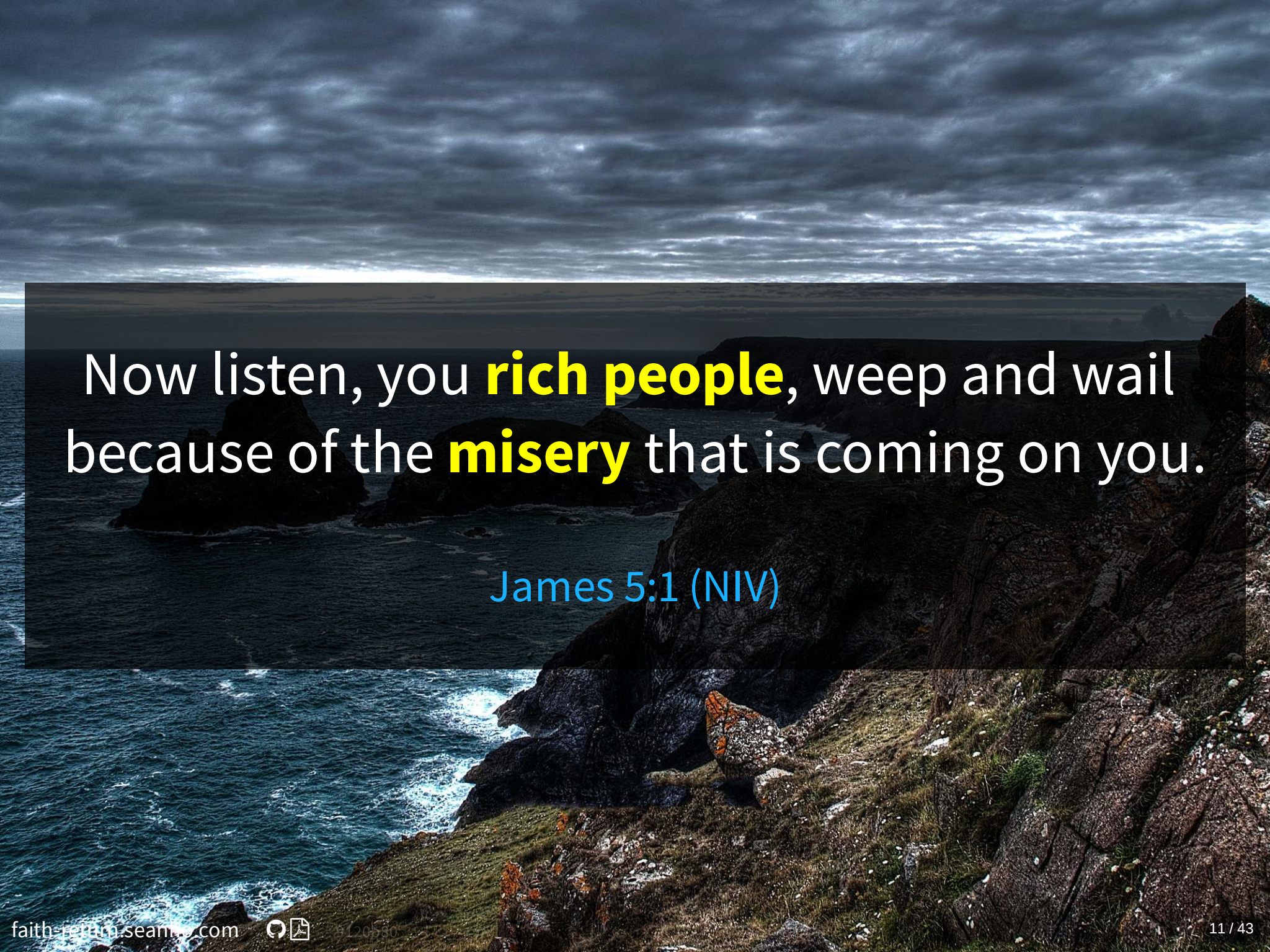
Looking to Christ's Return

1. The Disadvantage of Wealth

- a. Money **Rusts** (v1-3)
- b. Wages **Cry Out** (v4)
- c. Standard of Living Has a **Cost** (v5-6)

2. The Promise of Patience

- a. **Active** Waiting (v7-8)
- b. No **Grumbling** (v9)
- c. Example of the **Prophets** (v10-11)



Now listen, you **rich people**, weep and wail
because of the **misery** that is coming on you.

James 5:1 (NIV)

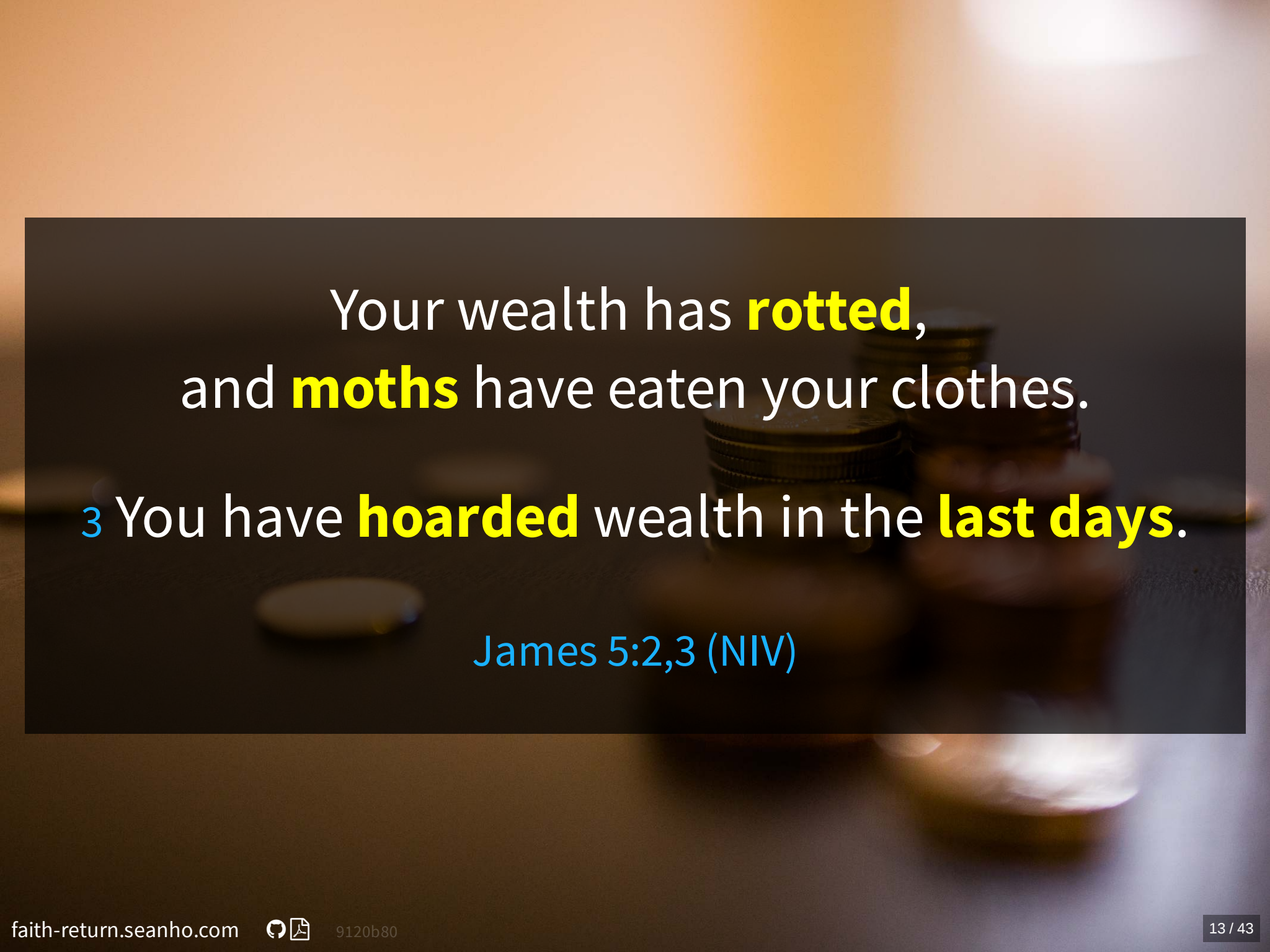
The Disadvantage of Wealth

The **rich** should take pride in their **humiliation**,
since they will pass away like a **wild flower**.

(1:10)

“We will carry on business and **make money**” –
What is your **life**? You are a **mist** ... (4:13-14)

Is it not the **rich** who are **exploiting** you? (2:6)



Your wealth has **rotted**,
and **moths** have eaten your clothes.

3 You have **hoarded** wealth in the **last days**.

James 5:2,3 (NIV)



Your gold and silver are **corroded**.
Their corrosion will **testify** against you
and **eat** your flesh like fire.

James 5:3 (NIV)



Money never **stays** with me.
It would **burn** me if it did.

I **throw** it out of my hands as soon as possible,
lest it should find its way into my **heart**.

John Wesley, letter to Patty Hall, 1768

Gain all you can. **Save** all you can.
Give all you can.

John Wesley, "The Use of Money", 1744

Have I trusted
in wealth as
my safety net?

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Look! The **wages** you failed to pay
the **workers** who mowed your fields
are **crying out** against you.

James 5:4 (NIV)

“You have **plenty** of grain
laid up for many **years**.
Take life **easy**; eat, drink and be **merry**.”

20 But God said to him, “You **fool**!
This very night your **life**
will be demanded from you.

Then **who** will get
what you have prepared for yourself?”

Luke 12:19-20 (NIV)



The **cries** of the harvesters have reached
the ears of the **Lord Almighty**.

James 5:4 (NIV)

**What is
the purpose of
saving money?**

Looking to Christ's Return

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- b. No Grumbling (v9)
- c. Example of the Prophets (v10-11)

A large, luxurious house with a swimming pool at night. The house has a tiled roof, a chimney, and arched windows. The pool is in the foreground, reflecting the lights from the house. The text is overlaid on the image.

You have lived on earth
in **luxury** and **self-indulgence**.

You have **fattened** yourselves
in the day of slaughter.

James 5:5 (NIV)



You have **condemned** and **murdered**
the innocent one,
who was not **opposing** you.

James 5:6 (NIV)

**Whom have I
harmmed to
preserve my
standard of living?**


Looking to Christ's Return

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See how the **farmer** waits for the land
to yield its valuable crop,
patiently **waiting**
for the autumn and spring **rains**.

James 5:7 (NIV)



You too, be **patient** and **stand firm**,
because the Lord's coming is near.

James 5:8 (NIV)

What **work**
has God given me
in **preparation**
for His return?


Looking to Christ's Return

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- a. Active Waiting (v7-8)
- b. **No Grumbling** (v9)
- c. Example of the Prophets (v10-11)

The background of the slide features silhouettes of several people standing and looking out towards a bright horizon, likely during a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of soft orange, yellow, and blue tones. The people are in the foreground, their forms dark against the lighter sky.

Don't **grumble** against one another,
brothers and sisters, or you will be judged.


James 5:9 (NIV)



Do not **slander** one another.

Anyone who **speaks against** a brother or sister
or **judges** them
speaks against the **law** and judges it.

James 4:11 (NIV)

The background of the slide features silhouettes of several people standing and looking out towards a bright horizon, likely a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The text is overlaid on this background.

Don't **grumble** against one another,
brothers and sisters, or you will be **judged**.

The Judge is standing at the **door**!

James 5:9 (NIV)

**Have I sighed
in resentment at
a child of God?**

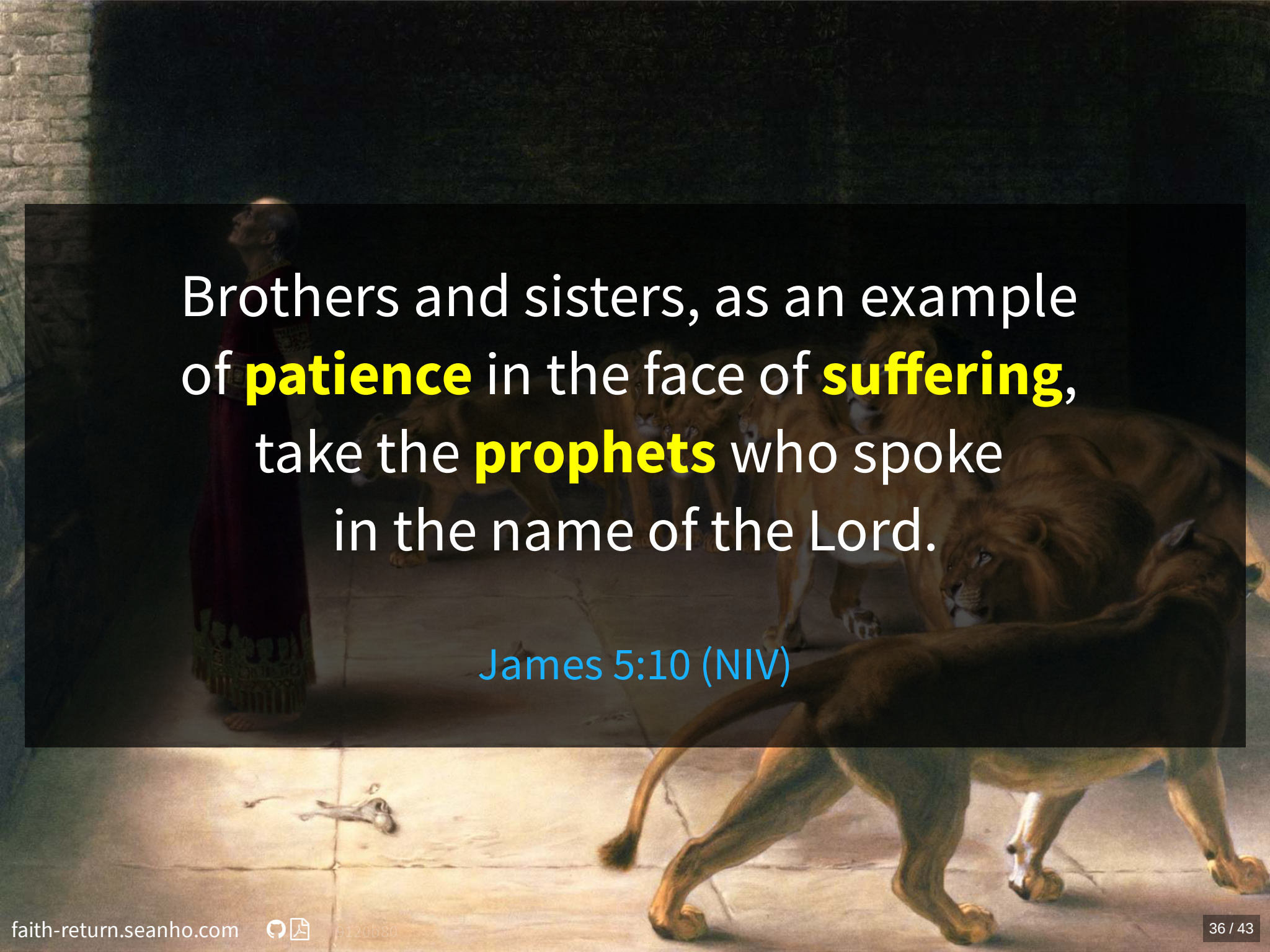
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- c. **Example of the Prophets** (v10-11)



Brothers and sisters, as an example
of **patience** in the face of **suffering**,
take the **prophets** who spoke
in the name of the Lord.


James 5:10 (NIV)



How long, Lord, must I call for **help**,
but you do not **listen**?

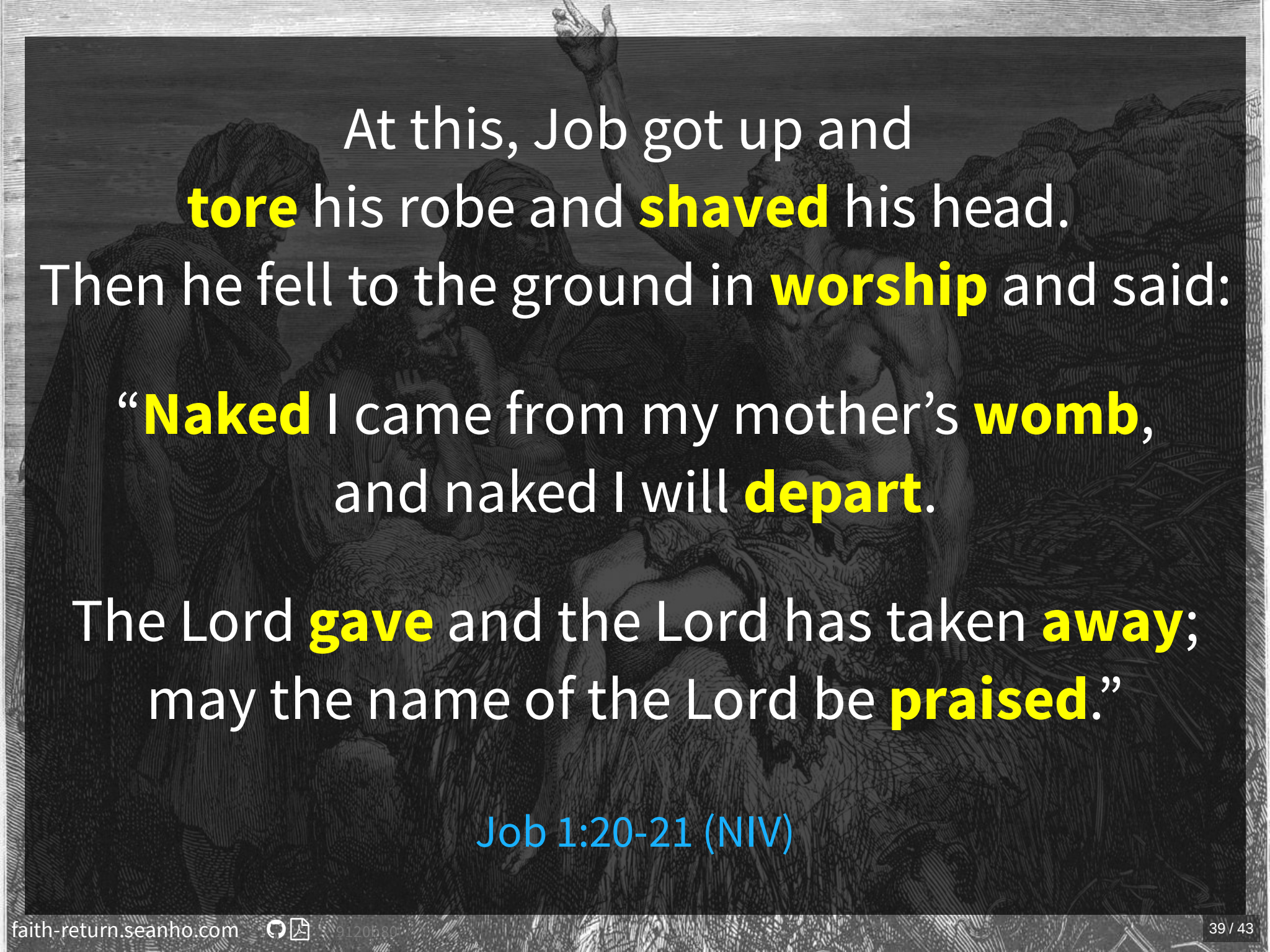
Or cry out to you, “**Violence!**”
but you do not **save**?

Habakkuk 1:2 (NIV)



You have heard of **Job's** perseverance
and have seen what the **Lord**
finally brought about.

James 5:11 (NIV)



At this, Job got up and
tore his robe and **shaved** his head.
Then he fell to the ground in **worship** and said:

“**Naked** I came from my mother’s **womb**,
and naked I will **depart**.”

The Lord **gave** and the Lord has taken **away**;
may the name of the Lord be **praised**.”

Job 1:20-21 (NIV)



The Lord is full of **compassion** and **mercy**.

James 5:11 (NIV)

Do I **trust in God's
compassion
enough to **wait** for
His salvation?**

Be **patient**, then, brothers and sisters,
until the Lord's **coming**.

See how the **farmer** waits for the land
to yield its valuable **crop**,
patiently waiting
for the autumn and spring **rains**.

8 You too, be **patient** and stand **firm**,
because the Lord's coming is **near**.

James 5:7-8 (NIV)

