

## THE THREAT OF WEALTH

James 5:1-6

Three threats to a humble walk with God			
Threat 1	Defamation	Exalting myself over a _____	4:11-12
Threat 2	Presumption	Living as independent from _____	4:13-17
Threat 3	Wealth	Acting as an _____	5:1-6

### Two Cycles

Cycle 1 - \_\_\_\_\_

- **Self-care** (2-3)

Riches -  
Garments -  
Money -

- *Result ...* **Condemnation** (4)

Lord of hosts - Lord Omnipotent (Isaiah 5:7)

Cycle 2 - \_\_\_\_\_

- **Self-care** (5)

Luxury -  
Self-indulgence -

- *Result ...* **Condemnation** (6)

Condemned and murdered -

The bread of the needy is the life of the poor; whoever deprives them of it is a man of blood. To take away a neighbor's living is to murder him; to deprive an employee of his wages is to shed his blood.

Joshua ben Sira, 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC

Righteous person -

## Conclusions

There is no sin in merely being rich; where sin exists among the rich, it arises from the manner in which wealth is acquired, the spirit which it tends to engender in the heart, and the way in which it is used.

A. Barnes

### 1. Treasure -

The rich-righteous live as \_\_\_\_\_ of all their possessions.

The rich-unrighteous live as \_\_\_\_\_ of all their possessions.

### 2. Trust -

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

### 3. Betrayal -

Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits. James 1:9-11