



Questions for further study

A Faith that Transforms

9th March 2025

James 5:7-11

1. (v7-8) How often do you think about Jesus second coming? James wrote these words 2,000 years ago, yet we are still waiting. Why should we believe that it is near?
2. James talks about the autumn and spring rains. The autumn rain marks the start of the planting season and germination of seeds. What does this mean in spiritual terms? (Perhaps consider the parable of the sower.) What could it mean for us personally?
3. The spring rains are important to mature the crops planted during the autumn rain. They are also used to describe spiritual renewing and blessing. (See Hosea 6:3) In what ways can we help to 'mature' new Christians? What practical steps can we take to continue to mature while we wait for Jesus to return?
4. James exhorts us to be patient and stand firm. As we look at events happening around us, why is this vital? Read 1 Cor 15:58. What is the Lord's work? Why does it sometimes feel as if we labour in vain?
5. James was not always a believer. Read Mark 3:21 and 1 Cor 15:5-7. What made the difference? How can we show sceptics and unbelievers the risen Jesus today? Pray for those friends and family members who have been resistant to the gospel.
6. Below is a summary of the messages James wants to give us. Which of them do you want to work on in your own life? What practical steps can you take to achieve this?

Don't show favouritism
 Resist temptation
 Be quick to listen rather
 than talk
 Care for those in need
 Work for peace
 Take care about the
 words you use
 Don't act like you own
 time.
 Be open-handed with
 what God has given us
 Pray prayers of faith