



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Praying Through James 5:1-6

Lord Jesus, as we study the Bible, please help us to never take one verse of the Scriptures out of context from the whole Bible and misunderstand Your meaning. Indeed, if we only had a few verses of warnings in the Bible, verses that You designed to be saving and sanctifying, we might mistakenly condemn anyone who is rich and tell them that they will have miseries in the future for they and all their rich possessions will be destroyed someday. Thankfully, we have the whole Bible and know that it is not being rich that is the problem; instead, it is what or who we love and how we use our gifts from You that make the difference. Some rich have chosen to love and seek luxury, wealth, privilege, power, and pleasure. Indeed, those who love money will serve money, and as Jesus said they will eventually hate God. The truths in the Bible explain much of what we see in this world today. As Your followers, Lord Jesus, please restrain us from loving, seeking, and serving money. By the power of the Holy Spirit, draw us into a closer and more loving relationship with God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Please teach us truths from the Bible that will help others and us stand firm in our faith in You and enable us to warn those who love wealth and the things of this world so they too might turn to God, repent of their sins, cease to cheat or exploit others, place their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and begin to faithfully follow You. Please help us share the warnings in the Bible in ways that some sinners will see Your love for them and Your efforts to seek and save the lost through us. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

Please Note: I first learned about “Praying Through the Bible” from Edith Schaeffer, the wife of Francis Schaeffer. You might like to close your class with the above prayer as a way of beginning to teach your class how they too can pray through the Bible. First, you might like to teach your class how to pray through the *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* each week. [Perhaps some of them would learn how to pray through portions of the Bible during their daily Bible reading and quiet time.] Second, a week in advance, perhaps some of your students would like to write their own “Prayer Through the Bible” using the *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* and read their prayer at the close of class. Third, eventually, your students will be able to pray through the Bible without needing to write their prayer in advance before they pray at the end of class. If you would like to learn more about prayer from Edith Schaeffer, read [*How God Teaches Us to Pray: Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer*](#), Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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