

RUST AS A WITNESS

(James 5:1-6)

- Introduction:
1. Covetousness was a sin in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament (Exodus 20:17; Hebrews 13:5).
 2. Yet covetousness is a sin that usually goes undetected by the one guilty of practicing it.
 3. This lesson is intended to cause us all to reexamine our giving that we may be sure we have not been robbing God.

I. The Macedonians: An Example In Giving

- A. (II Corinthians 8).
- B. They gave under affliction and persecution (8:2).
- C. They gave with abounding joy (8:2; 9:7).
- D. They gave with liberality (8:2-3; 9:6; Luke 6:38; Malachi 3:10).
- E. They gave willingly (8:3; 9:7).
- F. They gave more than expected (8:5).
- G. They gave themselves, not just their money (8:5).

- Conclusion:
1. Let us learn to trust God with our riches.
 2. And may God help us to be liberal givers, expressing our gratitude for what God has already liberally given to us.

THE INVITATION OF CHRIST

The word "*gospel*" literally means "good news". And that is exactly what Jesus offers to you and invites you to receive. The good news of Jesus is that He has paid the price for our sins. All He asks in return is for us to accept His gift of salvation. To do this, one must:

BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God and died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins (Hebrews 11:6; Ephesians 1:7).

REPENT or "turn away from" the sins you have committed in your past (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31).

CONFESS with your mouth that you believe Jesus to be Lord (Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9-10).

BE BAPTIZED or immersed in water for the remission of all your past sins in obedience to the Lord's command (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:36-38).

RESOLVE from that point forward to obey and observe all of the Lord's teachings (Matthew 28:19-20; Hebrews 5:9).

If you want to respond to the above invitation of Jesus, then as we sing the invitation song following the sermon, please come to the front of the building, and we will assist you in your obedience to God.