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46. In our study of *The Letter of James*: Chapter Five, tends to emphasize the impact the other races of people have on the Jews. Yet, there is also an impact from their own geography.

- Israel's geography is so positioned that its agrarian economy must also be 47. recognized. It is not unusual for every location on the earth to have weatherrelated issues that impact its economy.
- 48. The article above points out those typical of Israel. Further, these weather issues vary and therefore there are good years for harvests but also poor ones for which the farmers must be alert and prepared.
- Wise farmers systematically adjust, not only for the current crops, but also, if 49. necessary, to prepare for the following year's potentially beastly weather.
- This issue is addressed in the seventh verse of chapter five: 50.

James 5:7 Therefore be patient [μακροθυμέω $(makrothum\dot{e}\bar{o})$], brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. (NASB)

- 1. Note that the Jews have been taught to be patient "until the coming of the Lord." In A.D. 45, the Jewish people were first informed by James that the next dispensation in the divine agenda would be the Rapture of the church.
- 2. Since the Rapture is eminent, then it may always be anticipated but upon which never to rely. The prophecy of the Rapture was first revealed to James, but its arrival will always remain a mystery.
- Yet, one's anticipation must not allow a believer to assume it will occur in his 3. lifetime. Since the Rapture is "next on the prophetic agenda," does not also reveal when it will occur. There is no subsequent prophecy that forecasts the time, month, day, and year but only that it is, "Next"!
- Therefore, one's understanding of the event may conclude it is imminent but with 4. no clue about when to expect its arrival. The same is true in the present days of the twenty-first century. It thus remains a mystery.
- As a result, both then and now, believers must make decisions based on the 5. erratic history typical of the ups and downs common to a fallen planet and the winds, fronts, temperatures, and their correlations common to the vicissitudes of the global weather system. To do this effectively, the person must anticipate the possibility of a cold, prolonged, and wind-chilled winter.
- When a mild winter occasionally occurs and accompanied by lots of rain and 6. snow is why people often squirrel away water for droughts that will inevitably occur in the future.

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- 7. James 5:7 begins with the phrase, "Therefore be patient" is the agrist active imperative of the verb, μακροθυμέω (*makrothuméō*): "to have patience" is its meaning in the context of this passage. This is a technical use of the agrist tense.
- 8. We have recently studied the doctrine of monetary reversionism. Now we note the solution to monetary reversionism.
- 9. We begin by noting the exact technical meaning of the word by its etymology. It is a compound formed by two words. The first is μακρός (makrós) which indicates duration, and θυμός (thumós) which refers to the soul with emphasis on the mind. It comes into the English as the adjective, "long-suffering" or have a patient or long-enduring soul.
- 10. The principle is the fact that within the soul is the solution to every problem, including all the facets or phases of reversionism. When you placed your personal faith in Jesus Christ for salvation, it was your soul which was saved, not your body.
- 11. More good news is the fact that at the resurrection you will receive a new resurrection body, yet the same old soul minus the sin nature. Therefore, it is the soul that is the major issue.
- 12. The soul is the battleground of the Christian way of life for believers. The soul was imputed to the body at physical birth, but at the same time the sin nature was imputed to it also.
- 13. Also in the soul is volition, or free will, by which humans make their own personal choices by which they advance spiritually or decline into reversionism.
- 14. Positive volition sends doctrine into the soul as ἐπίγνωσις (epígnōsis) which is then cycled into the καρδία (kardía), or heart. From there, doctrine flows into the frame of reference and its memory center where it enlarges to become an available source for spiritual growth.
- 15. As spiritual growth advances, *epígnōsis*, with the enlargement of doctrine among biblical norms and standards, develops the Edification Complex of the Soul with its Foundation and subsequent construction of seven categories of spiritual growth: **F.** Salvation: Received by faith alone in Christ alone. **1.** Operation Z: Spiritual growth under the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit, **2.** Dispensations: Knowing what time it is and the uniqueness of the Church Age, **3.** The ten problem-solving devices, **4.** Spiritual self-esteem and application of problem-solving devices of Personal Love for God and Unconditional Love for Mankind, **5.** Spiritual Autonomy and the Copacetic Spiritual Life, **6.** Spiritual Maturity and Occupation with Christ, and **7.** The Lifestyle of the Invisible Hero with Invisible Historical Impact.
- 16. Among the applications that facilitated for the believer is the possession and application of "patience": μακροθυμέω (*makrothuméō*).

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17. The above analysis provides the advance made by the believer who endeavors to develop and execute the Edification Complex of the Soul.

- It is God's objective for us to have happiness in time, but which is elusive 18. without the development of capacity for it. God withholds nothing but the volition of the believer must pursue this happiness.
- 19. The process begins with the volitional decision to pursue immutable truth. Once discovered in Scripture, the believer must focus his mind on inculcating the details, principles, and concepts of doctrine.
- The initial doctrine that a new believer encounters is the Blood of Christ. This 20. doctrine contains an analysis of the Person and Work of Messiah while on the cross during which occurred the imputation of all the sins of the human race imputed to Him for their judgment by God the Father.
- 21. The Person of the Messiah must be undiminished deity and His work must include the totality of all human sins being imputed to Him followed by their judgment by God the Father.
- 22. The doctrine of the Blood of Christ is essential for a clear understanding of Jesus' Person and work on the cross. In this doctrine are analyses of both the Lord's "somatic death" which refers to His literal blood while His spiritual death refers to what happened to His figurative blood.
- 23. These categories refer to biblical concepts that are critical for one's understanding about what went on during the time Jesus was on the cross. We have been told that Jesus died for our sins on the cross but there is far more to it than this which we will see as we pause to study:

The Doctrine of the Blood of Christ

Definition and Description. A.

- 1. While our Lord did some bleeding on the Cross, He did not bleed to death, nor does His literal human blood have anything to do with the phrase found throughout the New Testament, "the blood of Christ."
- 2. Even Greek lexicons recognize this principle when defining the noun, αἷμα (haíma), the Greek word for blood.
 - "αἷμα" (haíma), in the paragraph describing the figurative a. use of the blood of Christ says, "blood and life as an expiatory sacrifice; especially of the blood of Jesus as the means of expiation [the act of atonement]."²

² William F. Arndt and F. Wilber W. Gingrich, A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, 3d ed., rev. and ed. by Frederick William Danker (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2000), p. 26.