

James 5:12

November 14, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

James 5:12 - But above all, my brethren, don't swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your “Yes” be “Yes,” and your “No,” “No,” lest you fall into judgment.

1. The Purpose of Vows

Psalm 76:11 - Make vows to the LORD your God and fulfill them.

Ps. 61:8 - I will sing praises to Your name forever as I fulfill my vows day after day.

Hebrews 6:13 - When God made His promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for Him to swear by, He swore by Himself.

2. The Problem with Vows

#1 - Rash vows

1 Sam. 14:24 - Saul bound the people under an oath, saying, “Cursed be anyone who eats food before evening comes.”

#2 - Unkept vows

Mt. 23:16, 18 - “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, *it's nothing*, but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, *he is bound by his oath*.’ And you say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar, *it's nothing*, but if anyone swears by the gift that is on the altar, *he is bound by his oath*.’”

James 5:12

November 14, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

3. The Priority of Truth

James: Let your “Yes” be “Yes,” and your “No,” “No.”

Genesis 12:18-19 - So Pharaoh summoned Abram and asked, “What have you done to me? Why didn’t you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her as my wife? Here is your wife. Take her and go!”

Genesis 27:41 - Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

Genesis 37:31-32 - Then the brothers killed a young goat and dipped Joseph’s robe in its blood. They sent the robe of many colors to their father and said, “We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son’s robe or not.”

Luke 12:2-3 - "There is nothing concealed that won't be disclosed, or hidden that won't be made known. What you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light."

Ps. 15:4 - The faithful followers of the LORD keep their promises even when it hurts.

2 Kings 5:26 - Elisha said to him, "Didn't my heart go with you when Naaman stepped down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to receive money and clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and cattle, male and female servants? Because you've done this, Naaman’s leprosy will cling to you and your descendants forever.”

Matthew 12:34 - Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having *put away falsehood*, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, *because we are members one of another*.

James 5:12

November 14, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Ephesians 4:15 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ,

James 5:12

November 14, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

1. The _____ of Vows.

2. The _____ with Vows.

3. The _____ of Truth.

James 5:12

November 14, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Closing Questions

1. Where does lying come from? (Matthew 12:34)

All lies are an indicator of inward _____ that needs to be dealt with.

2. Where does lying lead to? (Ephesians 4:25)

Lying destroys _____.

3. Where does the truth lead? (Ephesians 4:15)

Truth helps us to _____