



# The Full Gospel Church

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## The Failure of Riches

# Greed Begets Poverty



When greed overcomes morality and integrity, the money and gold becomes cankered and corroded as described by the Apostle James. John C. Bogle begins his latest book, “Enough” with the following:

At a party given by a billionaire on Shelter Island, Kurt Vonnegut informs his pal, Joseph Heller, that their host, a hedge fund manager, had made more money in a single day than Heller had earned from his wildly popular novel *Catch-22* over its whole history. Heller responds, “Yes, but I have something he will never have . . . enough.”<sup>1</sup>

Just as the stock market crash of 1929 precipitated the Great Depression, the present panic is causing the start of the same. Stores are going out of business, people are being laid off, and other signs of the start of a depression. Speculation caused both the current panic and the 1929 crash.

1. John C. Bogle, Enough (Hoboken, NJ:John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2009) p. 1.

# James 5:1-16

1 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.

3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husband-man waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.





# Paying the Price

Thus when the Apostle James wrote, “Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.” we are seeing their demise before our very eyes. We are seeing the Congress bankrupting the United States all in the name of protecting the greedy from the Lord's punishment. We are seeing poorly run companies being bolstered up by the government because, “They are too big to fail.”

America is paying the price for their wickedness and greed. Circuit City is out of business because of poor management. Citigroup and other businesses are receiving trillions of dollars for their ineptness.

We are seeing Congress doing everything wrong. When the time comes when America cannot meet its own obligations, all you have to do is look at yourself and who you elected to office. You will pay the price for your own greed by believing the lie that a company is too big to fail. Throughout history the mightiest empires fell when they also thought that they were too big to fall.

We are seeing our country's demise from our own arrogance, greed, sin, and wickedness. When we elect the wicked to be our leaders, is it any wonder that we are in the condition that we are in?

Sin and wickedness has led our country down the road to destruction. John Bogle and others have seen this demise coming and few have heeded the warning.

# Romans 1:18-32

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

30 Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.



# America Needs to Repent



The government is not the answer for America's problems. Jesus Christ is our only hope and we need to repent and turn from our wicked ways. We need to seek the Lord Jesus Christ in prayer

The Congress, Senate, and Barack Obama all will fail you and the country. Only Jesus Christ can protect you and your family from the coming judgment! This financial panic that we are witnessing is God's judgment on an unjust, wicked, adulterous, and sin-filled nation that has become the modern Sodom and Gomorrah!

The Bible tells us to repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand. Mark 1:15 America needs to repent of all of their sin! We need to seek the Lord Jesus Christ with our whole heart and turn from our greedy, wicked, sin filled ways.