RICH MEN WITH MOTH EATEN GARMENTS

By William T. Barrett

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JAMES

11

5 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.

QUESTIONS:			
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QUE	ESTIONS:
1	What makes these <u>rich men</u> <u>rich</u> ?
2	What is the <u>matter</u> with their <u>riches</u> ?
3	What is the <u>matter</u> with their <u>garments</u> ?
4	What are the Real Ojects ?
5	What do the Real Objects represent Spiritually?
6	When is the <u>time</u> period of this text ?
7	What is the <u>treasure</u> of the <u>rich men</u> ?
8	Who do the <u>rich men</u> represent?
9	Why must this text be <u>Spiritually</u> understood?
10	What "witnesses" against the rich men?

What does the text mean when it says that their "flesh will 11 be eaten as it were by fire?

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QUESTIONS: (Think! About the Physical)

- 1 What makes these <u>rich men rich</u>? (*Their gold and silver*)
- 2 What is the <u>matter</u> with their <u>riches</u>?

 (*Their gold and silver is "cankered" or rusted*)
- 3 What is the <u>matter</u> with their <u>garments</u>?

 (*Their garments are "motheaten" or have holes in them*)
- 4 What are the <u>Real Objects</u>? (Gold, silver, motheaten garments)
- 5 What do the <u>Real Objects</u> represent <u>Spiritually</u>? (See <u>Bible Word Pictures on following pages</u>)
- 6 When is the <u>time</u> period of this text?
 (The <u>Last Days</u> or at the <u>End of TIME</u>)
- 7 What is the <u>treasure</u> of the <u>rich men</u>? (Their gold and silver)
- 8 Who do the <u>rich men</u> represent? (See texts on following pages)
- 9 Why must this text be <u>Spiritually</u> understood?

 (Real <u>gold</u> or <u>silver</u> does **not** <u>rust</u>)

 (Rich men do **not** wear motheaten garments)
- 10 What "witnesses" against the rich men? (The "rust" on their gold and silver)
- 11 What does the text mean when it says that their "flesh will be eaten as it were by fire?

 (It means that their bodies will be burned up by fire)

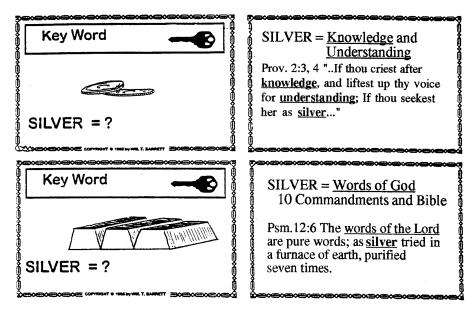
(Think ! About the Spiritual)

5 What do the <u>Real Objects</u> represent <u>Spiritually</u>? What does **gold** represent?



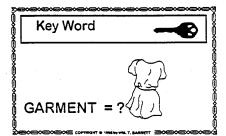
"GOLD" represents "FAITH" and "LOVE" and GOD'S LAW"

What does silver represent?



"SILVER" represents "KNOWLEDGE" and "UNDERSTANDING" of the Bible and God's Law

What does a garment represent?



GARMENT = Character or life

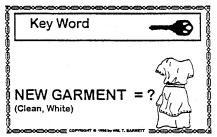
Genesis 35:2 "... Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and

change your garments.

Zechariah 3:4 "... Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold. I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment."

A "GARMENT" represents a person's "CHARACTER" or "LIFE"

What does a **New Garment** represent?



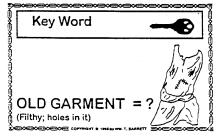
NEW GARMENT = New righteous life (Clean, White)

Isaiah 61:10 "... My soul shall be joyful in my God for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness. . ."

Revelation 19:8 "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

A "NEW GARMENT" represents a "RIGHTEOUS LIFE"

What does an **Old** or **Motheaten garment** represent?



OLD GARMENT = Old sinful life

(filthy, holes in it)

Zech 3:4 "... Take away the filthy garment from him. . . behold I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee. . ."

James 5:1,2 "Go to now, ye rich men. . . Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten

"*AN OLD*" or "*MOTHEATEN GARMENT*" represents a "SINFUL LIFE"

What makes these rich men rich?

(Physical) Their Physical Gold.

(Spiritual) Their Spiritual "Gold".

(Their **Faith** and **Love** and Obedience to

God's Law)

(Physical) Their Physical Silver. (Spiritual) Their Spiritual "Silver".

> (Their Knowledge and understanding of the Bible and God's Law)

2 What is the matter with their riches?

(Physical) Their Physical Gold and Physical Silver is rusted.

(Note: Real Gold and Silver do not rust)

(Spiritual) Their Spiritual "Gold" and Spiritual "Silver" is

spiritually "rusted".

Rusted "Gold" (Their Faith and Love and Obedience to

God's Law is not being practised!

Rusted "Silver" (Their Knowledge and Understanding of the Bible and God's Law is not being used.)

3 What is the matter with their garments?

(Physical) Their Physical garments have Physical holes in

them.

(Note: Real rich men do not wear garments with

<u>holes</u> in them)

(Spiritual) Their Spiritual "Garments" have Spiritual "holes" in

them.

(Their <u>Character</u> is **defective** and they are living **Sinful lives**)

6 When is the <u>time</u> period?

(At the END of Time or the Last Days).

7 What is the <u>treasure</u> of the <u>rich men</u>?

(Physical) Their Physical <u>Gold</u> and Physical <u>Silver</u>.

(Their Money and possessions).

Matthew 6 : 19-21 "Lay <u>not</u> up for yourselves <u>treasures upon earth</u>, where <u>moth</u> and <u>rust</u> doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal : But <u>lay up</u> for yourselves <u>treasures in heaven</u>, where neither **moth** nor **rust** doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal : For where your **treasure** is, there will your **heart** be also".

Comment: To "give up your <u>treasure</u>" upon earth and to "lay up your <u>treasure</u>" in <u>heaven</u>, means to "turn your **heart**" from the things of the world and to "give your **heart**" to Jesus and the things of heaven.

Proverbs 2 : 3-5 Yea, if thou criest after **knowledge**, and liftest up thy voice for **understanding**; if thou seekest her as **silver**, and searchest for her as for **hid treasure**; then shalt thou **understand** the fear of the LORD, and **find** the **knowledge of God**.

Comment: The <u>only place</u> that we can "<u>search</u>" for the "**hid** <u>treasure</u>" of the **knowledge of God** is in **God's Word**.

(Spiritual) Their Spiritual "**Gold**" and Spiritual "**Silver**" should be the "**treasure**" of Spiritually "**rich**" men.

(Their "Knowledge and Understanding of the Bible" and their Faith and Love should be the "treasure" of Spiritually "rich" men.

8 Who do the rich men represent?

The "rich men" who have <u>rusty</u> "gold" and "silver", represent **Christians** who consider the "things of the world" to be of **more value** than the "things of God".

9 Why must this text be <u>Spiritually</u> understood?

(Real gold and silver does **not** rust and real rich men do **not** wear motheaten garments).

10 What is the "witness" against the rich men?

(The "rust" on their <u>silver</u> and <u>gold</u>). (The **lack of use** of the **Knowledge** and **Understanding** they have of the <u>Bible</u> and their <u>lack of **faith** and **love**</u>.

11 What does the text mean when it says that their "<u>flesh will</u> <u>be eaten</u> as it were <u>by fire</u>?

(It means that they will be <u>burned up</u> by <u>fire</u> and their <u>bodies</u> reduced to <u>ashes</u>.

Malachi 4:1,3

"...All that do wickedly shall be <u>stubble</u> and the day the cometh <u>shall burn them up</u>... shall leave them <u>neither root nor branch</u>... they shall be <u>ashes</u>.

REAL OBJECTS

SPIRITUAL MEANINGS

gold Faith, Love, and God's Law

silver Knowledge and Understanding of the

Bible and God's Law

garment Character or Life

motheaten garment Defective Character

or or garment with holes Sinful life

rich men "Christians" (in this case in name only)

rust lack of use

treasure where your heart is (either on things of

the world or the things of God

JAMES 5 Go to now, *ye* **rich men**, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon *you*. **2** Your **riches** <u>are corrupted</u>, and your **garments** <u>are motheaten</u>. **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 <u>heaped</u> <u>treasure</u> together for the last days.

(so called "Christians")

Go to now, ye rich men, weep

and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

(<u>Faith</u> and <u>Love</u>) is defective 2 Your **riches** are corrupted,

(Characters) are sinful

and your garments are motheaten.

(<u>Faith</u> and <u>Love</u> and Bible <u>Knowledge</u>) is **not** <u>being used</u>

3 Your **gold** and **silver** is cankered;

(lack of use)

and the **rust** of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire.

(put your <u>heart</u> into the <u>wrong things</u>)

Ye have heaped **treasure** together for the last days.

Paraphrase:

Go on now, you "**Christians**" (rich men) who have a <u>knowledge</u> of the Bible (silver) and have been given an opportunity to have your **faith** and **love** (gold) increase.

Howl and cry because of the miseries that will come upon you. You <u>neglected to <u>use</u> (rust) your <u>knowledge</u> of <u>God's Word</u> (silver) or to <u>exercise Faith and Love</u> (gold) to help others and as a result your <u>character</u> (garment) is <u>defective</u> and <u>sinful</u> (motheaten)</u>

In the <u>Last Days</u> you "**treasured**" your <u>money</u> and <u>possessions</u> (gold and silver) more than you "**treasured**" the <u>things of God</u> and because of this, you will be <u>burned up by fire</u> along with other wicked people.

Other Bible Study Helps:

You will want to order "How to Study and Understand Your Bible" (104) for yourself or for friends or relatives. This book will simplify your study of the Bible using word pictures of real objects to explain the Spiritual meaning of Bible texts. (See Bible Word Pictures reference booklet described below.) "How to Study..." is also available in Spanish: Cómo Estudiar y Entender Su Biblia (204).

Along with the "How to Study and Understand Your Bible" book, you will need to also order the Bible Word Pictures reference booklet (106). This booklet contains 240 Bible Word Pictures which can be used to study the Spiritual meaning of any Bible text. The Pictures and corresponding Bible texts identify the Spiritual meaning of objects and make it easy to visualize and remember them. The Bible Word Pictures will allow you to discover the "hidden treasure" of the Bible. Also available in Spanish: Ilustraciones de la Biblia (206).

You can start a <u>Bible Study Group</u> using the "*How to Study*..." book (104) or the pamphlet lessons (105), along with the *Bible Word Pictures* ref. booklet (106).

The books "Bible Parables Made Simple" (101) and (102) cover the <u>Parables</u>, which contain the <u>Truths</u> that <u>Jesus</u> felt were <u>the most</u> important for us to <u>understand</u>. You will be **fascinated** as you see how the <u>Bible explains itself</u>, as the **Bible Word Pictures** reveal the <u>hidden meanings</u> of the parables. **Volume 1** explains 13 parables from the book of Matthew and **Volume 2** explains parables from Matthew and other books of the Bible.

The booklet *Last Day Events* (103) will amaze you as you see all the <u>major events</u> foretold to happen to the church outlined in the first book of the Bible, Genesis.

The <u>book</u> "Bible Concepts compared to Popular Beliefs" (107) will surprise you, as you compare the Scriptures and discover the Bible Concept of various subjects as compared to Popular Beliefs.