

James 5:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. Do not grumble (stenazete, στενάζετε) against one another lest you be judged; the Judge stands at the door. Internal complaints invite divine scrutiny.

Reformed community life values unity. James links eschatology with ethics: awareness of Christ's impending arrival restrains murmuring.

Historical Context

Persecution created pressure-cooker environments where believers turned on each other. James addresses this, similar to Paul's command in Philippians 2:14.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Who are you tempted to grumble about, and why?
2. How can Christ's nearness restrain complaint?
3. What constructive actions can replace grumbling?

Interlinear Text

μὴ	στενάζετε	κατ'	ἀλλήλων	ἀδελφοί	ἴνα	μὴ
not	Grudge	one against another		brethren		not
G3361	G4727	G2596	G240	G80	G2443	G3361
κατακριθῆτε·	ἰδού·	κριτὴς	πρὸ	τῶν	θυρῶν	ἔστηκεν
ye be condemned	behold	the judge	before	G3588	the door	standeth
G2632	G2400	G2923	G4253	G2374	G2476	

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 4:5 (Judgment): Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

Leviticus 19:18 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

James 4:11 (Judgment): Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

Matthew 24:33 (Parallel theme): So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

1 Peter 4:9 (Parallel theme): Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

Genesis 4:7 (Parallel theme): If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

Galatians 5:26 (Parallel theme): Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Galatians 5:14 (Parallel theme): For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

1 Peter 4:5 (Judgment): Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.

Mark 13:29 (Parallel theme): So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.