- 5:7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.
- 5:8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.
- 5:9 Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!
- 5:10 My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience.
- 5:11 Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord-that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.
- 5:12 But above all, my brethren, do not 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.
- 5:13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.
- 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? 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.
- 5:15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.
- 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
- 5:17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.
- 5:18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.
- 5:19 Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back,
- 5:20 let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

## From today's sermon.

Endure, for the coming of the Lord is near. When the time of the Lord comes, we will be given eternal rest. For behold, the tabernacle of God will be with man, and God will dwell with man, and man will be God's people, and God Himself will be with man, and He will wipe away every tear from man's eyes. There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain." Revelation 21

Therefore, "Endure, and be strong in heart, and grumble against one another. Strengthen your hearts and do not grumble against one another."

When the going gets tough, when we endure suffering and grow weary, we may even grumble at each other. James admonishes us that this is the time to "pray for one another.

Prayer by faith saves a sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. And if the person has sinned, he or she will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is very powerful and effective.

We all sin. And our bodies suffer from disease. In our weakness, all we can do is support, help, and pray for one another. Prayer in times of sickness, prayer for our pain, confession of our sins to one another when we wander in our sins, and prayer for one another. When we live in righteousness (right relationship with God) in this way, we can realize the truth of this Word. When you see the consequences of what the Lord has done for him, you will know how compassionate and merciful He is."

Good morning everyone, it is now the middle of November. As we come to the end of this year, we sincerely wish to share the joyous news of Christmas with as many people as possible. The teachers from Hawaii have planned a variety of programs to announce the joyous news of Christmas, including a gathering at the Shobara Civic Hall on Friday evening, December 8, as an expanded version of the usual Aloha Cafe, and on Saturday, December 9, at Joyful in the afternoon, On Sunday the 24th, we will rent a room at the Shobara Grand Hotel for a Christmas gathering and a gospel hula performance with the general public. In December, a hula teacher from Hawaii will visit Shobara for a month. We also hope to go hand in hand, hand in hand, with prayer, for the evangelization of this area. We ask for your cooperation in this endeavor.

Psalm 96:1 Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

96:2 Sing unto the LORD; praise his name. Proclaim his salvation day by day.

96:3 Let his glory be known in the midst of the nations, and his mighty works in the midst of the peoples.

96:4 For the LORD is a great God, praiseworthy and to be praised, more to be feared than all the gods.

96:5 All the gods of the peoples are vain: but the LORD is the God of the heavens and the earth. But the LORD hath made the heavens of the world.

96:6 Honor and majesty are before him; power and splendor are in his sanctuary.

96:7 Return to the LORD, yea, to the LORD, glory and power, yea, to the LORD, yea, to the LORD, yea, to the LORD.

We are now at the end of the book of James. Let us read it together.

7 Therefore, brethren, endure until the coming of the Lord. 7 Therefore, brethren, be patient until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits patiently for the precious fruit of the earth, until the former rain and the latter rain.

8 Be ye also patient, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Keep your hearts strong, for the coming of the Lord is near.

The coming of the Lord is near. We have read in the book of Revelation that in the end times many sufferings will come upon us. Jesus said that the darkness in the world and all kinds of disturbing things are just the beginning of the birth pangs.

Matthew 24:3 And while He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, His disciples came to Him secretly and said, "Tell us. When will this happen? What portents are there of your coming again and of the end of the world?

24:4 Then Jesus answered and said, "Take heed that no man deceive you.

24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying that they are the Christ, and shall deceive many.

24:6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: beware, and be not rash: for it must come to pass. It must come to pass, but it is not yet finished.

24:7 And people shall rise up against people, and nation against nation. And there will be crises and earthquakes here and there.

24:8 But all this is the beginning of birth pangs.

24:9 Then people will afflict you and kill you. And you will be hated by all peoples because of my name.

24:10 Then shall many stumble, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

24:11 And many false prophets shall arise, deceiving many.

24:12 And iniquity will abound, and the love of many will grow cold.

24:13 But he who endures to the end will be saved.

Yes, it is so. He who endures to the end will be saved. As stated in Revelation 21.

21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth are gone, and the sea.

21:2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride dressed for her husband.

21:3 And I heard a loud voice crying from the throne, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with man, and God dwells with man, and man is God's people, and God Himself is with man,

21:4 He will wipe away every tear from man's eyes. There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain. For the former things have passed away.

5:7 Therefore, brethren, endure until the time of the Lord's coming. Be patient until the time of the Lord's coming. Behold, the farmer waits patiently for the precious fruit of the earth, until the former rain and the latter rain.

5:8 Be ye also patient, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Keep your hearts strong.

The former rain and the latter rain. The autumn rain and the spring rain.

Palestine, where the Bible is set, has a long "dry season" that lasts from April to about October, and a "rainy season" that begins at the end of October. The "rainy season" begins with heavy rainfall to soften the ground that has become rock-hard during the dry season. The softened soil is then plowed and sown. This "rain" is called the "first rain" (or "autumn rain"). After that, intermittent heavy rains fall from December to February, and eventually, as the spring harvest season approaches, the rains begin to fall with great intensity to ensure that the grain is fully harvested. This rain is called the "latter rain" (or "spring rain"). Without the two rains "the first rain and the latter rain," and "the autumn rain and the spring rain"-there can be no sowing and no reaping. (From "Pastor's Study" website)

Without the power and grace of nature, there can be no crops. One only has to wait for the time of grace. A time of difficulty, a time of helplessness, a time of hardship. A time of chaos as the end times approach. But we are those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord. We know that when He comes, there will be eternal comfort. We are those who lay up treasures in heaven. Everything we have is given to us by God. And what we have now is what we are entrusted with. If the Lord is good, our needs will be met. The Lord knows what we need. Therefore, do not be anxious about your clothes, do not be anxious about your food, do not be anxious about tomorrow, and do not be anxious about tomorrow's needs. Do not worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow is tomorrow. The Lord said, "Do the best you can today.

Matthew 6:19 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths devour and rust, and where thieves break in and steal.

- 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth eateth, nor rust, nor thieves break in and steal.
- 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
- 6:22 The eyes are the lamp of the body. Therefore, if your eyes are clear, your whole body will be bright.
- 6:23 But if your eyes are evil, your whole body will be dark. 6:23 But if thine inward light be dark, what shall be the darkness thereof?
- 6:24 No one can serve two masters at once. For you hate the one and love the other, or you love the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and wealth.
- 6:25 Therefore I say to you. 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Be not anxious for your life, what shall I eat, or what shall I drink; neither be anxious for your body, what shall I put on? For life is better than food, and the body is better than clothing.
- 6:26 Look at the birds of the air. They neither sow nor reap, neither do they put them in the storehouse. Yet your heavenly Father provides for them. 6:27 Are you not far better than they?
- 6:27 Who among you can prolong his life even a little because of a thought?
- 6:28 And why do you trouble yourselves about your clothes? 6:28 And why do you worry about your clothes? They neither work nor spin.
- 6:29 But I say unto you, that even Solomon, when he was in the height of his glory, was not so clothed as one of these flowers.
- 6:30 For if God so dresses even the grass of the field, which today grows and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how can He not do you more good? O ye of little faith!
- 6:31 Therefore do not be troubled, saying, What shall I eat, or what shall I drink, or what shall I put on?
- 6:32 All these things the Gentiles long for. Your heavenly Father knows that all these things are necessary for you.
- 6:33 Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be yours. Then all these things will be given to you together.
- 6:34 Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow. 6:34 Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow itself will be anxious about itself. For one day's toil is enough for one day.
- 5:8 Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is near. Keep your hearts strong, for the coming of the Lord is near.
- 5:9 Brethren. Do not grumble against one another, for you may be judged. For you may be judged. Behold, the Judge is already standing at the door.

Seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. In relationship with God, everything is resolved. That is what we learn is important. Various heretical religions are abusing it, making people trust them, making them defenseless, and ripping them off. We are truly heartbroken.

God helps us to persevere in times of trouble, that we may be able to endure and that our hearts may be strong. We tend to ooze grumbling. We complain and judge those near and far. We complain and judge those near and far, because our circumstances are so difficult. It is no small task. So we grow weary, we misjudge, we become discouraged, and we blame others. We are impatient and act in such a way because we cannot find the means to solve the problem. If we were content, happy, healthy, and not tired, we would not do such things. However, we are subject to various difficulties, and sometimes we lose patience and our hearts explode.

5:8 Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is near. Keep your hearts strong.

5:9 Brethren. Do not grumble against one another. For you may be judged. For behold, the Judge is already standing at the door.

But it is not our work to judge others, but God does.

Luke 6:37 Judge not men, and you shall not be judged. Judge not others, and you will not be judged yourself. And do not condemn others, so that you will not be condemned. Do not condemn others, and you will not be condemned. Forgive them. Forgive them, and you will be forgiven.

5:10 Brethren. Follow the example of the prophets who have spoken in the name of the Lord concerning the endurance of suffering.

5:11 Woe to those who persevere, we think! You have heard of the patience of Job. And you see the result of what the LORD has done to him, and you know how merciful and compassionate the LORD is.

Job was a righteous man, but still the trial came. We ponder the meaning of trials, but God's will is far beyond ours. There are times when we cannot make sense of it, no matter how much we think about it. But patience helps us in these times.

This book of James also begins and ends with patience.

1:1 Greetings from James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes who are scattered about.

- 1:2 O my brethren! 1:2 Consider it a great joy, when ye meet with trials: for ye shall know that ye are my brethren, and that ye are my disciples, and that ye are my disciples.
- 1:3 For as you know, the testing of faith produces endurance.
- 1:4 Therefore, work out your patience so that you may be perfect and complete, without defect.

Patience increases our faith. No matter what the situation, even when we don't understand or think about it, we must continue to have faith in God who redeemed us from our sins with His Son, the Creator of heaven and earth, and the gift of perseverance is given to us. Without perseverance through faith, we will not be able to go through this world of difficulties. With a strong heart, we hope to follow the path taken by the prophets and other believers in the past. We want to know how the Lord has rewarded each one of us.

You will see how the Lord is rich in mercy and compassion when you see the end result of what He has done for him."

5:12 Now, my brethren, what is the matter with you? At any rate, do not take an oath. Do not swear by the heavens, or by the earth, or by any other oath. Rather, let the "yes" be "yes," and the "no" be "no." Otherwise, you will not be able to do what you ought to do. Otherwise you will be judged.

If you swear by God, and if you swear, you must receive judgment when you have done something contrary to your oath. He tells us that we are weak, and that we should not make oaths to heaven, but only say yes or no.

- 5:13 Is there one among you who is afflicted? If he is, let him pray. Is there one among you who is rejoicing? Then let him rejoice.
- 5:14 Is any of you sick? 5:14 Invite the elders of the church to pray for him, anointing him with the oil of Olives in the name of the Lord.
- 5:15 Prayer by faith shall save him that is sick, and the Lord shall raise him up. And if he has sinned, he will be forgiven.
- 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is very powerful and effective.

The importance of prayer is discussed. Earlier we saw them complaining to one another. But it is written that we are not to be weak, neither to judge nor to criticize others from above, but

to pray for each other, support each other, and help each other.

We acknowledge our weaknesses, we admit our weaknesses to each other, and we come before God to pray. Admitting weakness, admitting immaturity, caring for one another, bearing one another's burdens of sickness, one another's burdens of sin, and praying for one another. This is the way of righteous living in relationship with God, and for those who are in that righteousness, God will reveal great power. When we earnestly live together and pray, God will do His work.

Rev. 16:9 The eyes of the LORD go through the whole earth, and he reveals his power to those who are wholehearted toward him.

5:17 Elijah, who was a man like us, prayed that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months.

5:18 Then he prayed again, and the heavens brought rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Even Elijah, the superheroic prophet of the Old Testament, was a human being just like us, weak and weary.

1 Kings 19:1 Ahab told Jezebel of all that Elijah had done, and that he had killed all the prophets with the sword,

19:2 And Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "If I have not made your life like the life of one of those people by this time tomorrow, let the gods punish me however they may.

19:3 So Elijah, being afraid, stood and fled to save his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there,

19:4 And he went into the wilderness as far as a day's journey, and sat down under the tree of the cedars, and asked for his death, saying, "Enough, O Lord, enough is enough. Take my life now. I am no better than my fathers.

19:5 And he fell down and slept under the trellis of the Leda tree, because the angel of heaven touched him and said, "Arise and eat,

19:6 When he arose, he saw by his head a piece of bread baked on a baking stone and a bottle of water. He ate and drank, and went back to sleep.

19:7 And the angel of the Lord came again, and touched him, and said, "Arise, eat. The way is so far that you will not be able to bear it.

19:8 And he arose and ate and drank, and went forty days and forty nights, strengthened by his food, and arrived at Horeb, the mountain of God.

19:9 And he went to Horeb, the mountain of God; but in spite of his infirmity, God used him with great favor, and manifested his works.

5:19 O my brethren! If any of you go astray from the way of truth, and any man turn him back, 5:20 Know this, that he who thus leads a sinner astray, delivers his soul from death, and covers a multitude of sins.

Peter also denied the Lord three times and broke down in tears. But he got up. He stood up only for the Lord's forgiveness.

Luke 22:31 Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has forgiven you, hoping to sift you as wheat.

22:32 But I prayed for you, that your faith might not fail. So when you get back on your feet, strengthen your brothers."

22:59 After about an hour, another insisted, "Surely this man was with Jesus. He is a Galilean, too.

22:60 Peter said, "I do not understand what you are saying. And immediately, before he had finished, a cock crowed.

22:61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the words of the Lord, who had said, "Today, before the cock is gone, you will say three times that you do not know me.

22:62 And he went out and wept bitterly.

But for Peter there was abundant mercy and forgiveness from the Lord. We, too, are kept alive in that mercy. Therefore, we pray for each other, support, serve, pray for healing, cover for inadequacies, intercede and pray, turn back those who turn away from the way of truth, and go on believing that this is the way of salvation and life, and that many sins will be covered and forgiven.

5:11 Woe to those who persevere, we think! You have heard of the patience of Job. And you have seen the result of what the Lord has done for him, and you will know how loving and merciful the Lord is.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. Thank you for giving us the strength

to endure, knowing that great blessings and happiness await us beyond what we endure. We know how the Lord has done it in the end. Thank you for your words, "For the Lord is merciful and full of compassion. Lead us, then, not to grumble against one another in exhaustion, but to strengthen our hearts and harden our minds, so that we may recognize each other's weaknesses and bear them, support, pray for, and serve one another. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.