

Sermon: Two Kinds of Trials: Having Little, Having Much.
Series: *James: Real Wisdom, Real Faith.*

Scripture: James 1:9-12.
Date: September 19, 2021

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Are you currently experiencing the trial of having little or having much? And...where can you see God exalting you and/or humbling you in your trial?

b) Why do you think James spends more time on the dangers of wealth than on the dangers of poverty? Read Mark 4:19 and 1 Timothy 6:17 to help you.

2) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) What promise does God make to us in this passage? How can this promise replace wealth in our hearts as our worth and security?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) How does union with the cross cause the lowly to be exalted? How does it cause the rich to be humbled?

b) How was Christ both the rich who was humbled AND the lowly that was exalted (Read also 2 Cor. 8:9 and Phil. 2:5-10)? What does this teach us about our life in Christ?

APPLICATION

a) What is one way you might need to change your priorities to kingdom priorities when it comes to your wealth?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 1:16-22.

PRAYER

- Praise God for the promised crown of life.
- Confess ways that you have let wealth determine your worth.
- Thank Jesus for his humility and for his exaltation through the cross.
- Ask God to allow you to embrace Christ's humility and exaltation through your trials.