

“James #2”

James 1: 9 - 18 (Rich and poor perspective plus steadfast in trials)

Review: V's 2 – 8

- James 1: 1 - 4 (NKJV) Read
- #1 James does not tell us to feel joy in the midst of our trials, **but rather to count it or consider our trials pure Joy...** [V2]
- In other words, see your trials from a different perspective.
- Our suffering now can be endured with perseverance because we know that our trials are leading to maturity... [V3] *“Knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.” (Endurance or Perseverance)*
- God is going to take our trials and perfect us through it... [V4] *“Let patience have its perfect work, **that you may be Perfect.**” (Mature)*

2nd Timothy 1: 8 *“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the **sufferings** for the gospel according to the power of God.”*

- Though the trials of life test us, God uses them to strengthen our faith!!

James 1: 5 - 8 (NKJV) Read

- Wisdom... what kind of wisdom are we to ask for?
- When we are suffering and struggling, **we find ourselves questioning God and doubting His love for us.**
- We wonder where He is and if He really is working through our trials.
- ***WE NEED HIS WISDOM IN THE MIDST OF THE TRIAL!! (We must ask in faith, knowing will help us and guide us)***

Tonight's Text: James 1: 9 – 11 (ESV) Read

- The church James is writing to is facing persecution...
- It seems that the wealthy may have been contemplating or may have been considering avoiding persecution in favor of trusting their wealth and livelihood!
- **James warns that this life is fleeting.** We are like the flowers and the grass...

(V11) *"For the sun rises with it's scorching heat and withers the grass; it's flower falls. And it's beauty perishes, so also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits."*

- We must remember our Lord Jesus. Who for our sake became poor, **hung on a cross, so that we would be exalted with Him forever!**

James 2: 5 Read (ESV)

Matthew 19: 23 – 30 Read (ESV)

Text: James 1:12 -15 (ESV) Read

- Sin comes from inside us. It is our fault. **Our own evil desires.**
- Temptation is something we all face, Christians will especially be attacked.
- Though we fight and struggle, far too often we give in to the trials and are drawn away from Christ Jesus.

(Every temptation is an enticement of Satan... trying to drag us away from our Savior)

The bible says resist the devil and he will flee from you... The question is, how do I resist!

Psalms 1:1 – 3 (NKJV) Read – (To meditate / To ponder by talking to himself)

Robert Heller:

*"In the midst of temptation God's Word and Christ's Words come to us as refreshing water that refreshes us and strengthens us to face trials in our sinful weakness... It is the word that tells us that God has raised Jesus from the dead and **Crowned Him** with authority over all creation, **and He rules over you in love and mercy.**"*

Text: James 1:16 – 18 (ESV) Read

- Do not be deceived, by trials and temptations... *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above."*
- (V3)
- *"Of His own will **He brought us forth by the word of truth.**"*

Another Translation: *"He chose to give us birth through the word of truth. That we might be a kind of firstfruits of all creation."*

- Not only does His word give us new birth but it also sustains us in trials and suffering!
- **We must remember...** *God is our Father who gives all good gifts... Amen!*