

The Great Equalizer

Trials prove that in Christ, wealth is not an advantage **James 1:9-12** Chris Mueller 9-26-2021

Introduction:

1 Timothy 6:17 *Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. 18 Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.*

Galatians 3:28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Romans 8:28 *God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

Philippians 1:29 *For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.*

2 Timothy 3:12 *All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.*

Genesis 50:20 *As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.*

9 *But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position; 10 and the rich man is to glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away. 12 Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him*

#1 Trials are the great E test 9-11

1st The POOR are _____ in Trial 9

9 *But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position;*

2nd The RICH are _____ in Trial 10-11

10 *and the rich man is to glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.*

#2 Trials are the great E test 12

12 *Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

1st Blessing 12a

12a *Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial;*

2nd Growing 12b

12b *for once he has been approved,*

3rd Rewarding 12c

12c *he will receive the crown of life*

4th Exposing 12d

12d *which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

1 John 4:8 *The one who does not love, does not know God, for God is love.*

1 John 4:16 *God is love, and the one who abides in love, abides in God, and God abides in him.*

1 John 5:3 *For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.*

1 Peter 1:8 *though you have not seen Him, you love Him.*

1 Corinthians 16:22 *If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed.*

QUESTIONS for GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why does James discuss the rich and the poor in the context of teaching on trials?
2. What are the advantages of being poor as a Christian?
3. What are the advantages of being rich as a Christian?
4. What blessing that comes from trials is most encouraging to you personally?
5. How will you respond differently to trials after learning from this passage today?
6. What steps do you need to take in order to grow more from trials than you do now?



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