

## “HOW YOU SHOULD VIEW POVERTY AND WEALTH?”

(James 1:9-12)

### I. INTRODUCTION (James 1:1)

### II. THE VALUE OF TRIALS (James 1:2-4)

### III. THE VALUE OF GODLY WISDOM AND FAITH (James 1:5-8)

### IV. THE CORRECT ATTITUDE TOWARDS YOUR IDENTITY (James 1:9-12)

#### A. The Larger View of Circumstances in Light of Your Identity in Christ (1:9-11)

1. The Christian who is financially distraught can still \_\_\_\_\_ that he/she presently possesses spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ which cannot be taken. (v. 9a)
2. “*Exaltation*” may include the believer’s present \_\_\_\_\_ of his exalted spiritual status as well as his \_\_\_\_\_ of a place of privilege in the glorious eternal \_\_\_\_\_ inaugurated by Christ. (v. 9b, cf. Philip. 3:20-21)
3. Verses 10-11 provide a \_\_\_\_\_ for the wealthy believer to boast in his “*humiliation*” (that the ground is level at the cross); because confidence in riches is an \_\_\_\_\_ prop. (v. 10a)
4. The rich man should remember that material riches are only \_\_\_\_\_, and that one's real condition before God is a very \_\_\_\_\_ one. (v. 10b, cf. Isa. 40:6-8; Ps. 49:16-17)
5. James is teaching that it is not your \_\_\_\_\_ resources that take you through the trials and testings of this life, but it is your \_\_\_\_\_ resources in Christ Jesus. (Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:11)

6. The rich man (like the poor man) should be \_\_\_\_\_ that wealth means \_\_\_\_\_ to God, because not only can it be easily lost, but you \_\_\_\_\_ take a penny of it with you when you die. (v. 11)
7. It is good for the wealthy believer to keep the perspective that however “exalted” he may seem in the \_\_\_\_\_ eyes, this is not how the \_\_\_\_\_ views him at all. (Matt. 23:12; James 4:6, 10)

**B. The End Result When Trials Are Responded to Correctly (1:12)**

1. James opened v. 12 with the word “\_\_\_\_\_” (*makarios*), much like the beatitudes of our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ perseverance in \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 12a, cf. Matt. 5:3-12)
2. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ awaiting Christians who have \_\_\_\_\_ responded while in trials, “*the crown of life... promised to those who love Him.*” (v. 12b, cf. Rev. 2:10)

\* What are some other crowns mentioned in Scripture?

\* How can you personally apply this passage today?