

REAL FAITH FOR THE REAL WORLD

The Book of James

PART 4

TRULY BLESSED

Redefining Riches and Rethinking Rewards

(James 1:9-12)

INTRODUCTION:

PREVIOUSLY...

1. THE FIRST IMPERATIVE: _____ TRIALS _____ ! (1:2-4)

“Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.” And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

- We don't just tolerate the trial, we treasure it!
For when we _____, we _____ !

2. THE SECOND IMPERATIVE: _____ WISDOM _____ ! (1:5-8)

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting...”

We need wisdom from above,...

- ...for we are finite, fallen, fallible and in the flesh.
- ...for it is difficult to act wisely when you are in the heat of a trial — when you have been wronged or wounded, or when you are weary and wrestling with what God is doing.
- It begins with a proper reverence for Him and a passionate pursuit of Him.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

—Proverbs 9:10

TODAY...

3. THE THIRD IMPERATIVE: _____ LIFE _____ ! (1:9-11)

- These scattered believers had not only experienced geographic dislocation, but were also suffering _____ isolation and _____ deprivation.

1A. THE _____ : (1:9-11)

“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.”

1B. The Poor Brother is to boast in his _____.

2B. The Rich Brother is to boast in his _____.

• As the poor brother forgets all his earthly _____, so the rich brother forgets all his earthly _____. For it is one's _____ in _____, and not one's _____ in this _____, that ultimately matters.

• The issues is not necessarily the _____ of earthly wealth, but our _____ with it. For the believer, it is to be _____, _____, and _____.

2A. THE _____ : (1:12)

“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.”

• True blessedness comes not from being _____ trials, but from being _____ trials.

• Eternal Life is for the believer, both a _____ as well as a _____.

CONCLUSION: