

How God Sees Your Trial - James 1

July 6, 2017

James 1:9-11 NASB

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.**

- *What we see as suffering, God sees as a promotion in life. What we call painful, God calls a blessing.*
- *When we cry out for the trial to be removed, God doesn't want us to lose the spiritual, eternal treasures found only in His presence.*
- *When all earthly joy is removed, it is so we can find God's fountain of eternal joy. When all human strength is depleted, it is so we learn how to draw on God's supernatural strength. When death surrounds us, it is so we can live in God's abundant life. When there is no natural hope, our faith to see beyond the circumstances to God's sovereign power is exercised. When we are surrounded by storms, it is so we learn how to live in His peace.*
- *Our fleshly nature will cling to and trust in anything in the natural realm in place of God. Many trials are designed by God to eliminate all other alternatives to trust in.*

Genesis 17:15-17 NASB

15 Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.

16 "I will bless her, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

17 **Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a man one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"**

John 11:3-6 NASB

3 So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "**Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick.**"

4 But when Jesus heard this, He said, "**This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.**"

5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

6 **So when He heard that he was sick, He then stayed two days longer in the place where He was.**

James 2:5 NASB

5 **Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?**

Revelation 2:8-9 NASB

8 "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life, says this:

9 'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich)...'

Philippians 3:1-11 NASB

1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

3 **for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,**

4 **although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:**

5 **circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;**

6 **as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.**

7 **But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted (*hegeomai - lead, command, deem, consider, account, suppose*) as loss for the sake of Christ.**

8 **More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,**

9 **and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,**

10 **that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;**

11 **in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

Jeremiah 9:23-24 NASB

23 **Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches;**

24 **but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.**