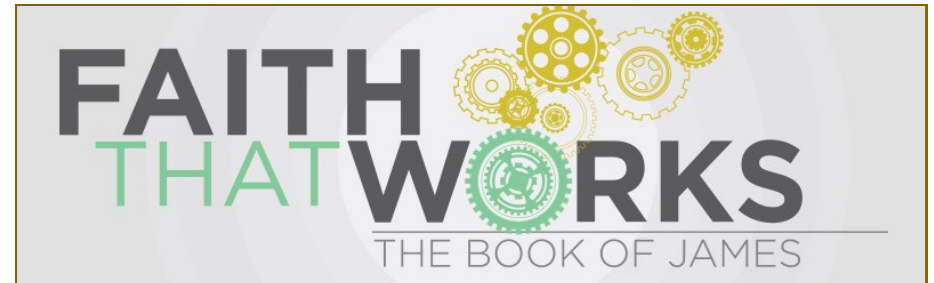


How can we pray for one another and our church this week?



#5 The Great Reversal (1:9-11)

*Sermon*  
*Notes*

February 3, 2019

### Quotes to Ponder

*If poverty has slain its thousands,  
prosperity has slain its tens of thousands!*

Robert Rayburn

*Christians must always evaluate themselves by spiritual and not material standards.*

Douglas Moo

*James tells them to glory in their lowliness, their smallness, to restrain those lofty motives that swell out of prosperity.*

John Calvin

*I am a creature of a day, passing through life as an arrow through the air. I am a spirit, coming from God, and returning to God; just hovering over the great gulf; a few months hence I am no more seen; I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing—the way to heaven.*

John Wesley

*As the poor brother forgets all his earthly poverty, so the rich brother forgets all his earthly riches. By faith in Christ the two are equals.*

Richard C.H. Lenski

*There is a crown for me.... Then will I gird up my loins and quicken my pace, since the crown is so sure to those who run with patience.*

Charles Spurgeon

*The knowledge of God in Jesus Christ is the most satisfying treasure; by it the poor man who has nothing is exalted.*

Sinclair Ferguson

*Neither material possessions nor lack of them is of any ultimate consequence. What is of significance is a trusting relationship to the Lord, who showers all of His children with spiritual wealth that will never diminish or fail to satisfy.*

John MacArthur

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1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convinced you? Challenged you? Confused you?
  2. What is the connection in James' thinking between trials (*James 1:2-4*) and wisdom (*James 1:5-8*) and poverty and riches (*James 1:9-11*)?
  3. What are the two types of Christians James addresses in *James 1:9-10*?
  4. What is the *brother in humble circumstances* to boast in (*James 1:9*)?
  5. In what way has the lowly brother been exalted (*cf. Galatians 3:28-29*)?
  6. What is the *rich* Christian to boast in (*James 1:10*)?
  7. What does *verse 11* have to do with the rich glorying in his *humiliation* (*cf. Philippians 3:2-11*)?
  8. What does James intend for both poor and rich believers to boast in (*cf. Galatians 6:14*)?
  9. What riches do we have as Christians according to the following verses?  

<i>Romans 8:16-17</i> —	<i>Ephesians 3:8</i> —
<i>Ephesians 1:3, 7</i> —	<i>1 Peter 1:3-6</i> —
  10. In what ways is poverty a test of faith? How is wealth a test of faith? How are they similar and different?
  11. Is it wrong for the poor to seek to better their financial position? Explain.
  12. When do we cross the line between having riches and trusting in them?
  13. Explain how trials reveal the equality of poor and rich Christians.
  14. What do the following verses teach about boasting?  

<i>Jeremiah 9:23-24</i> —	<i>Galatians 6:14</i> —
<i>Romans 1:30</i> —	<i>Ephesians 2:9</i> —
<i>Romans 5:11</i> —	<i>Philippians 3:3</i> —
<i>1 Corinthians 1:29</i> —	<i>James 4:16</i> —
<i>1 Corinthians 1:31</i> —	
- Reflection Questions:** Am I a poor or rich Christian? Have I prayed for wisdom that I might handle what God has given me according to His will? How do I put my trust in my wealth or possessions? What do I boast about or take pride in? Where do I find my deepest satisfaction? Is what is truly important, important to me?