

THE REORIENTING REVERSAL
James 1:9-12 // August 10, 2025 PM

God's eschatological reversal reorients our perspective on money, delivering us from greed.

I. In poverty and prosperity, *express* heavenly *boasting* by faith (vv. 9-11).

II. In poverty and prosperity, *expect* heavenly *blessing* by faith (vv. 12).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. How do wealth and poverty relate to the theme of trials that James has been addressing in the introduction to his letter?
2. How is a pay raise as much of a trial as a pay cut? How does the devil use money to tempt us?
3. What are poor Christians to boast in? What are rich Christians to boast in? Why?
4. Is money itself bad? If not, why does the Bible warn us so much about it?
5. How does v. 12 relate to Psalm 1 and the present and future blessedness it holds forth to those who live according to God's wisdom rather than the world's wisdom?
6. What future hope does James assure true believers of? How does that hope affect the way we face our present trials?
7. Why do we have the tendency to not be concerned about the love of money?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Do I agree with Pastor Nick that prosperity is no less of a trial than poverty? Why, or why not?
2. How is my current financial situation testing my faith, and how is the devil seizing upon it to tempt me? Am I seeking God for wisdom in it and practically applying the certainties of my funeral and the final judgment to it?
3. Am I as concerned about the potential of idolizing physical prosperity as I am of idolizing physical pleasure?