



Big Idea Christians with living faith must be wary of defeatism and successism and boast of the cross of Jesus to prevent trials.

James 1:9-11 ⁹ Christians who are poor should be glad, for God has honored them. ¹⁰ And those who are rich should be glad, for God has humbled them. They will fade away like a flower in the field. ¹¹ The hot sun rises and dries up the grass; the flower withers, and its beauty fades away. So also, wealthy people will fade away with all of their achievements.

1. A poor believer should boast of his elevated status.

Ephesians 2:4-7 ⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so very much, ⁵ that even while we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's special favor that you have been saved!) ⁶ **For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms-- all because we are one with Christ Jesus.** ⁷ And so God can always point to us as examples of the incredible wealth of his favor and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us through Christ Jesus.

2. Rich believers boast of humble status.

Philippians 2:5-7 ⁵ Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God. ⁷ He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form.



Three Key Questions

1. What is a key word in this passage?
2. What is a key verse in this passage?
3. What is a key tone of voice of this passage?



Text-based Questions

1. What did the poor Christian think? (verse 9)
2. What do you think of a rich Christian? (verse 10)



Three Christ-centered Questions

1. Who is Christ in this passage? (Verse 9)
2. Who is Christ to you?
3. Who are we in Christ?



Spirit-led Application

