



SERIES: JANUARY – BECOMING SPIRITUALLY FIT

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Thursday, 02/03/2022

Scripture: James 1:9-11

TITLE: The Benefit of Humbleness

On a recent trip to Philadelphia, I decided to get one of those famous Philly cheesesteaks. I was pumped. I've watched shows on these things. So I did a quick search as to the top place to go. I drove there. Showed up at the window, and it said, "Cash only." I didn't have any cash. I had plenty of money. But no cash. So I went to the ATM and even there it wouldn't give me my cash. I was broke though I had plenty of money.

I was reminded of the truth of Christianity. We are rich in the Lord even when we are broke and broken.

Listen to what James says about this very principle in James 1:9-11 (CSB).

Let the brother of humble circumstances boast in his exaltation, but let the rich boast in his humiliation because he will pass away like a flower of the field. For the sun rises and, together with the scorching wind, dries up the grass; its flower falls off, and its beautiful appearance perishes. In the same way, the rich person will wither away while pursuing his activities.

James has been talking about how to persevere through trials. He's talked about having the proper mindset. He's given us some very practical ways to persevere, including asking God for wisdom. And today, James' counsel is to be humble in spirit.

You see, James tells it like it is. It doesn't matter if you have no physical resources. Many of these dispersed Jews were likely wealthy before getting scattered throughout the region. But now, they were poor as poor can be. But guess what, they should boast or be proud in their relationship with God. They may not have the physical resources they once had or desire, but they are children of the King.

Similarly, though people may have wealth, when trials come, guess what? Their money won't really save them. The rich and the poor get cancer. The rich and the poor can lose their house in a fire. The rich and the poor all die. It's in our trials that we can relate and celebrate because of our dependence upon our heavenly father. There is benefit in our humble spirit.

So here's my challenge for you today: Draw near to the God's grace. Hebrews 4 tells us that we can draw near to the throne of grace with confidence to receive our needed mercy and grace.

So today, if you're broken, be proud because your Father knows, cares, and will deliver through your trial. If you're hurting because of life, cast your cares upon God because He truly cares for you.

No matter your status in life, you are a child of the King. When you draw near to God, you will win the day.