

“ ‘I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich)... Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.’ Revelation 2:9–11 (ESV)

Are all trials intended by God for everyones good?

This trial is not by chance. I am not a victim of fate. Rather, a loving God is doing something in it that I can't see, but it will result in greater glory for God, greater spiritual maturity for me and my endurance will bring an eternal reward.

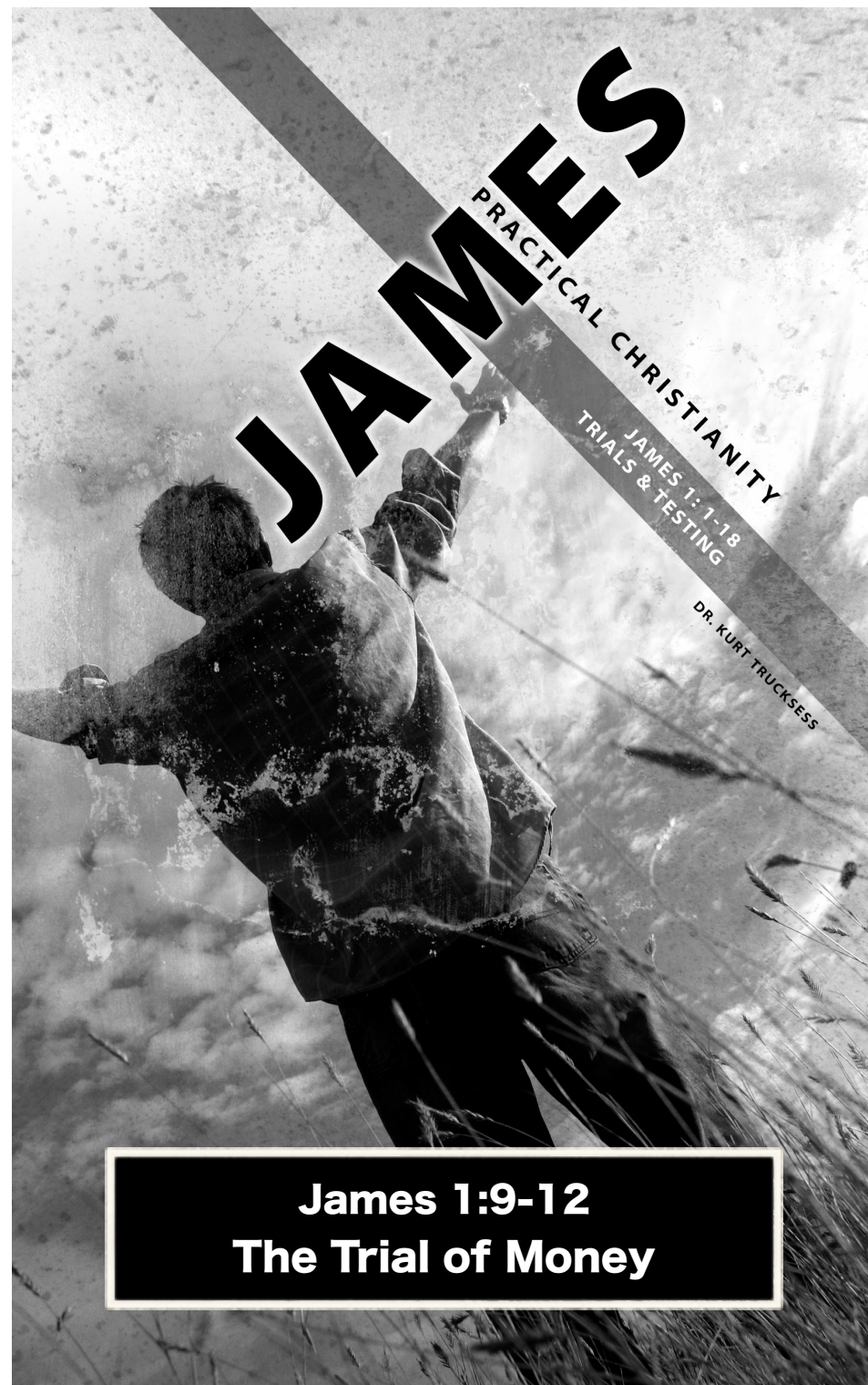
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Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscript and the audio files of the sermon are available at:

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Next Week: [James 1:13-15 - Sin in Slow Motion](#)

Two Weeks: [James 1:15 - Kill Sin!](#)



James 1:9-12
The Trial of Money

Faith Evangelical Free Church

April 3, 2011

James 1:9-12 - The Trial of Money

- Peter Jennings - died August 7, 2005
- Elizabeth Edwards - died December 10, 2010
- Michael Jackson - died June 25, 2009
- Leslie Nielson - died November 28, 2010
- Manute Bol - died June 19, 2010
- Jack LaLanne - died January 23, 2011

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.
1 Timothy 6:17 (ESV)

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.
Matthew 6:24 (ESV)

There is a great reward at the finish line.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 (ESV)

Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 1 Corinthians 9:25 (ESV)

Poverty can lead to discouragement.

Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, James 1:9 (ESV)

Riches can lead me away from Jesus.

and the rich in his humiliation,... James 1:10 (ESV)

Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:24–26 (ESV)

Riches are temporary.

...because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits. James 1:10–11 (ESV)