



FAITH, FREEDOM, & FITNESS

## DAILY BREAD

Friday, January 09  
James 1:9  
*Believers in humble circumstances  
ought to take pride in their high position.*



In powerlifting, as in all athletic endeavors, there are winners and there are losers. Some lifters are born with genetic strengths that enable them to lift incredible weight, far surpassing those that may train just as hard, or even harder. For those like me that train consistently but do not possess the genetic traits to excel in the sport we love so much, we can choose to be frustrated or to accept the realities of our physical potential and just be thankful that we're able to be a part of the world's strongest sport.



Today's verse from James 1:9 begins another important teaching explained in verses 9 through 11:

*Believers in humble circumstances  
ought to take pride in their high position.*

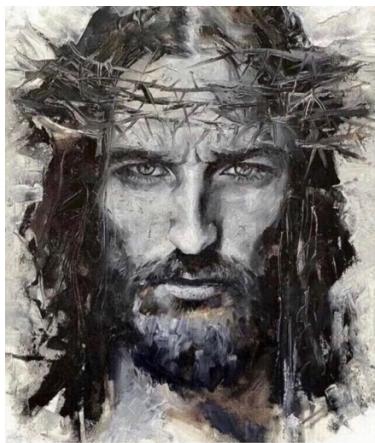
This continues James' description of what it looks like for a believer to trust God.

One piece of evidence that we have placed trusting faith in God's wisdom is the ability to change our own perspective on reality. In this case, James calls Christians living in humble or lowly circumstance to take pride or boast about their truly exalted position in Christ. As the next two verses will show, James is pointing out that it's not the circumstance of this short, fading life that matter most, but rather the position we hold in the life to come that is significant.

The ability for a poor Christian to declare that he or she is, in fact, the child of the King with riches beyond imagining – and to truly mean it – is evidence that he or she is trusting the Father in that moment.

Taken negatively, when we as Christ followers are consumed with sorrow and regret and envy and despair because of our limited resources, we show that we are not convinced in the reality of our God and our place with Him in eternity.

*In Christ, Spero*



*For God so loved the world,  
that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whosoever believeth in him  
should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.*

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