

James 1:9-12



### The Paradox of Christianity





To Live is to Die To Lose is to Gain To Conquer is to Surrender To Lead is to Serve To be First is to be **Last** To be weak is to be **Strong** To be a slave is to be Free To be Crucified is to Live



## Jesus' Death Conquered Death





# James' Paradoxes

To be a Servant is Good
To have Trials is to have Joy
To be Wise is to be Foolish
To be Poor is to be Rich



# The Status of Lowly Christians

- 1. Church was Lowly
- 2. Jesus was Lowly





1. They are Rich in Faith

2. They are Heirs of the Kingdom



### The Boast of Lowly Christians

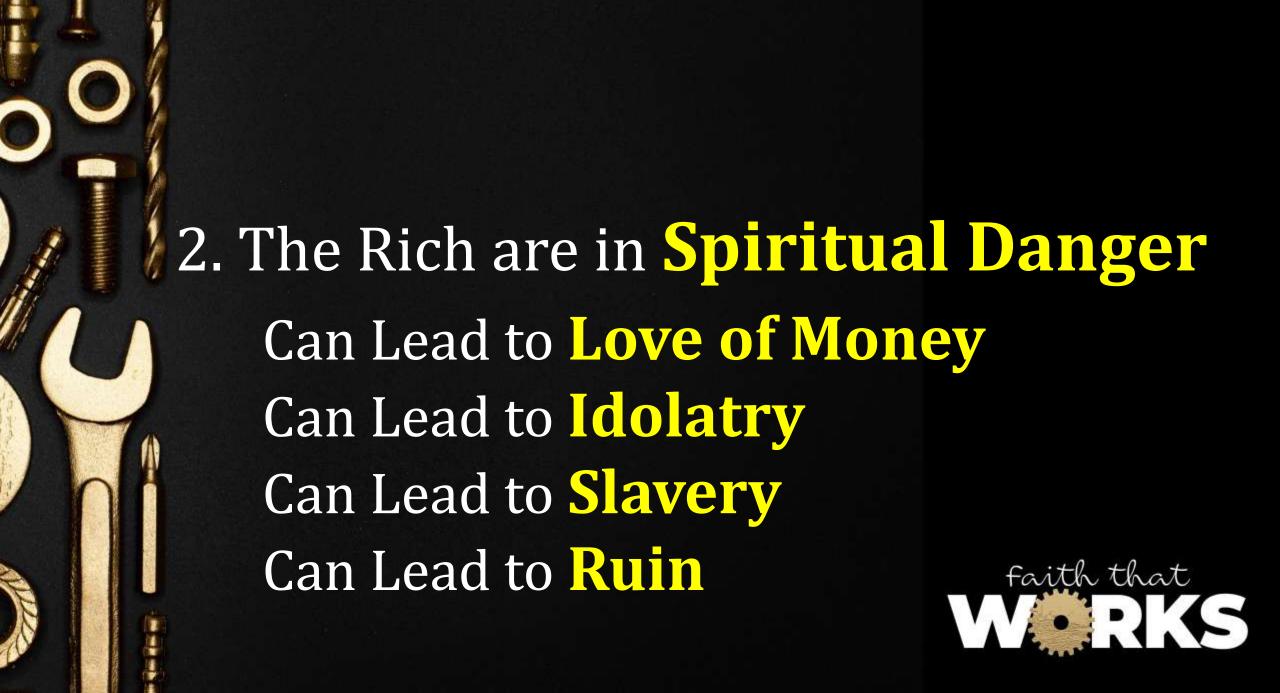
- 1. They Boast in their **Riches** in Christ
- 2. They Boast in their **Status** in Christ





# The Status of Rich Christians 1. The Rich are at a Spiritual Disadvantage

faith that WORKS



# Money is **Not Sinful**Money is **like Nuclear Material**



### The Humiliation of Rich Christians

- 1. Human Life is Fleeting
- 2. Human Vanity is Fleeting
- 3. Human Accomplishment is Fleeting



#### The Boast of Rich Christians

- 1. They Boast in their **Riches** in Christ
- 2. They Boast in their **Status** in Christ





# Stewardship

1. We Give Tithes

2. We Give Offerings

3. We Give Sacrificially



# The Hope for Christians

- 1. Both Must See their Status from God's Perspective
- 2. Both Must Remain Steadfast
- 3. Both Must Pass the Test
- 4. Both will be Blessed & Loved by God
- 5. Both will Receive the Crown of Life