

JAMES 1:9-11

THE HUMBLE POOR AND THE PROUD RICH

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⁹ LET THE LOWLY BROTHER BOAST IN HIS EXALTATION, ¹⁰ AND THE RICH IN HIS HUMILIATION, BECAUSE LIKE A FLOWER OF THE GRASS HE WILL PASS AWAY. ¹¹ 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.

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- THE **PROUD RICH** - AN UNBELIEVER WHO SETS HIS HOPE ON RICHES
- CONTEXT OF THE REST OF JAMES: RICH ARE UNBELIEVERS WORTHY OF JUDGMENT (JAMES 2:9; JAMES 5:1-6)
- **JAMES IS DESCRIBING THE RICH UNBELIEVER, BUT WITH ALL THE MATERIAL BLESSINGS GOD HAS GIVEN US, WE MUST BE ON GUARD SO THAT WE DO NOT LIVE LIKE THE RICH UNBELIEVER OR PROUD RICH.**

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- THE "PURSUITS" OF THE RICH: THE LOVE OF MONEY, THE ADDICTION TO MONEY, IS FOLLY AND COMPLETE HUMILIATION

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2. THE "LOWLY" CHRISTIAN

- DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS: "BROTHER OF LOW DEGREE"; "BROTHER OF HUMBLE CIRCUMSTANCES"; "LOWLY BROTHER"

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- MARY'S SONG

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"MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD,
⁴⁷ AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR,
⁴⁸ FOR HE HAS LOOKED ON THE **HUMBLE ESTATE** OF HIS SERVANT.
 FOR BEHOLD, FROM NOW ON ALL GENERATIONS WILL CALL ME BLESSED;
⁴⁹ FOR HE WHO IS MIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME,
 AND HOLY IS HIS NAME.
⁵⁰ AND HIS MERCY IS FOR THOSE WHO FEAR HIM
 FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.
⁵¹ HE HAS SHOWN STRENGTH WITH HIS ARM;
 HE HAS SCATTERED THE PROUD IN THE THOUGHTS OF THEIR HEARTS;
⁵² HE HAS BROUGHT DOWN THE MIGHTY FROM THEIR THRONES
AND EXALTED THOSE OF HUMBLE ESTATE; [SAME WORDS AS JAMES 1:9]
⁵³ HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS,
 AND THE RICH HE HAS SENT AWAY EMPTY.

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- JAMES IS REFERRING TO THE **HUMBLE POOR**, BUT THE EMPHASIS FALLS ON **THE HEART** AND THE POSTURE OF HUMILITY
- MARY'S SONG
- **HOW DO WE LIVE OUT THIS TEXT? BY BEING POOR IN SPIRIT AND MARKED BY A DEEP HUMILITY NO MATTER WHAT OUR EXTERNAL CIRCUMSTANCES.**

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3. EXALTED IN JESUS CHRIST, **THE "LOWLY" BROTHER**

- JESUS' DESCRIPTION OF HIMSELF IS, "I AM GENTLE AND **LOWLY** IN HEART" (MATT. 11:29)

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- THE HUMBLE CHRISTIAN IS EXALTED BECAUSE THEY CAST THEMSELVES ON JESUS CHRIST

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4. APPLICATION

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