



“Rich and Poor”

James 1:9-11

Week of May 3, 2020

I. The Rich Poor

Whom does James 1:9 address? What does it mean to be humble?

How would you describe a person of “humble circumstances”? Describe this in financial terms and also beyond finances.

How would this apply to Christians in the early church?

What would the Jewish people in Biblical times say about people who were poor?

How does this viewpoint often parallel the views of today?

What things are often used to judge whether someone is rich or poor?

Why does the word “pride” in James 1:9 seem to be a contradiction?

What is meant by the “high position” that is referred to in James 1:9?

What is the point that James is making in James 1:9?

What do the following verses tell us about riches?
2 Corinthians 8:9, Ephesians 1:18

Describe in your own words the riches that you have in Jesus as a Christian?

II. The Poor Rich

Whom does James 1:10 address? How does the world we live in define “being rich”? How do you define it?

Why is being rich so dependant on our definition?

James 1:10 uses the word “humiliation”. Define this word in your own terms.

What does James in James 1:10 want those with many things to understand when it comes to rejoicing or being glad in their humiliation?

How do you think that James would define being rich?

What did Jesus teach us about riches in Matthew 19:23-24?

To what does James compare the rich in James 1:10?

What happens to the wildflower in James 1:11?

What point is James making with the wildflower in James 1:10-11?

We often talk about how temporary earthly things are. At the end of James 1:11 what does James talk about being temporary?

How does Jesus tell us what our focus should be on in Matthew 6:19-21?

What is our riches in Jesus based? How does our poverty bring us into the riches of God’s grace?

How does this message on being rich and poor impact your perspective and your priorities?