

Digging Deeper: James 1:9–11 (*Trials and Temptations*)

Tug of War – Wealth in Poverty

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Day 1

Pray for humility. Read James 1:9. What audience is this verse directed towards and in what condition are they in?

Day 2

Pray for peace. Meditate on James 1:9. What does this verse say about how the lowly should feel about their humble circumstances? James 2:5 (ESV) “Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?”

Day 3

Pray for forgiveness. Read James 1:10. Does this verse suggest that the rich should also take pride in their situation? If so, under what specific condition? What class of people will wither away? Proverbs 23:5 says, “Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.” Also, read 1 Corinthians 7:31 and 1 Peter 1:24.

Day 4

Pray for mercy. Read James 1:11a. According to this verse, what will happen to the flower of the field when the sun rises with scorching heat?

Day 5

Pray for wisdom. Read James 1:11b. What does this verse promise will happen to the rich as they go about their business?

Day 6

Pray for spiritual guidance. Meditate on the words in these verses. Look up the word *humble* in the dictionary and jot down at least five synonyms and antonyms for this word. Conduct a brief self-assessment to determine whether being humbler will improve situations in your life. Read 2 Corinthians 8:9 (NIV): “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”