



FAITH, FREEDOM, & FITNESS

DAILY BREAD

Saturday, January 010

James 1:10

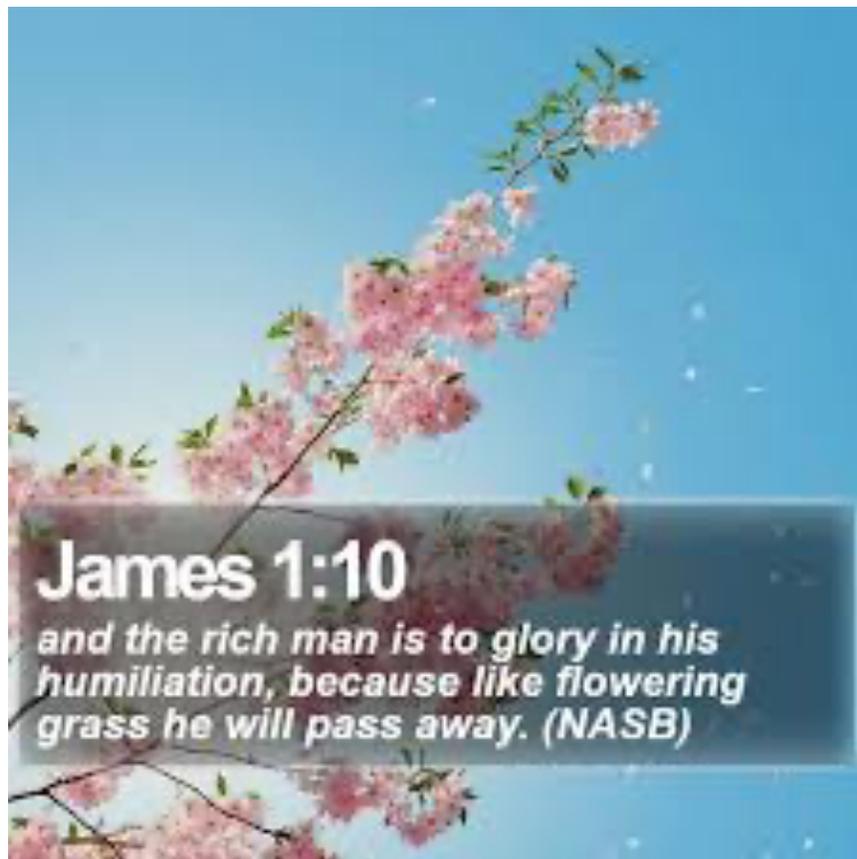
***But the rich should take pride in their humiliation –
since they will pass away like a wild flower.***



As we explained yesterday, verses 9 through 11 offer an important teaching on the question of Christian perspective. In verse 9, James wrote that those who truly trust the Father can boast about their exalted position even if they're completely destitute in this life. The lowliest Christian believer is eternal royalty with endless riches through their faith in Jesus Christ.

In today's verse from James 1:10, he explains that for the rich Christian, their faith in God is demonstrated by the mirror-image of that view:

But the rich should take pride in their humiliation – since they will pass away like a wild flower.

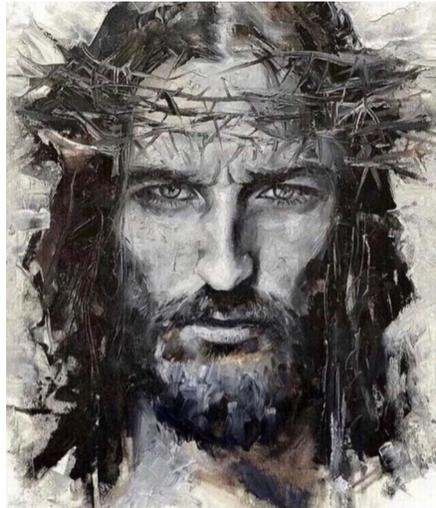


The rich Christian should ***“take pride in their humiliation.”*** In other words, those with great wealth in this life should not see their money as evidence that they are significant in any way. They are significant, as followers of Christ, only because they are children of God with a place in eternity. Whatever earthly wealth that have now is nearly meaningless because of how briefly it lasts.

Notice that James does not condemn the wealth of rich Christians. However, he will have harsh words later in his letter for those who abuse their wealth and power. Instead, in this verse and the next, he compares life on this side of eternity to a *“wild flower,”* beautiful but alarmingly temporary.

The ability of a rich believer to see his wealth as a fleeting thing, and to boast instead about his place in eternity, is evidence that he is trusting God. Conversely, Christians who presume that worldly wealth somehow makes them more important than the poor are failing to trust God’s perspective for how the universe really operates.

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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