

WISDOM FOR THE RICH & POOR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JAMES 1:9-11

1 **James 1 gives us wisdom for trials.** In light of this, why do you think that James surfaces the matter of poverty and wealth in verses 9-11?

 Take a moment and discuss how our outlook and reactions to our trials can be significantly swayed by where we find ourselves on the economic scale. How do you think the values of the world negatively influence the way Christians view their trials?

 Do you see yourself as someone who is primarily in humble circumstances, or rich? What type of person do you think characterized the original recipients of this instruction?

2 **James is going to instruct both the rich and the poor to boast.** We often think of negative examples when we hear of boasting.

 Read Jeremiah 9:23-24. How would you describe the type of boasting James is calling these believers to demonstrate?

3 **James instructs the poor to boast in their exalted position and the rich to boast in their humble position.**

 Do you think that it is easier for rich or poor people to boast in the manner James instructs them to do? Why or Why not? Read Matt.19:16-26; Matt. 6:24; 1 Timothy 6:7; 2 Cor 8:9; Matt. 5:3 and allow these passages to inform your answer.

