

James 1:9-12

The Rich Poor & The Poor Rich

THE TESTS OF POVERTY & RICHES



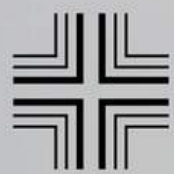


9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. 10 But the rich should take pride in their humiliation – since they will pass away like a wild flower. 11 For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

JAMES 1

Tests of Faith



TRIALS AND TEMPTATION



TEMPTATIONS

TESTS FROM WITHIN



FIDDLER *on the* ROOF

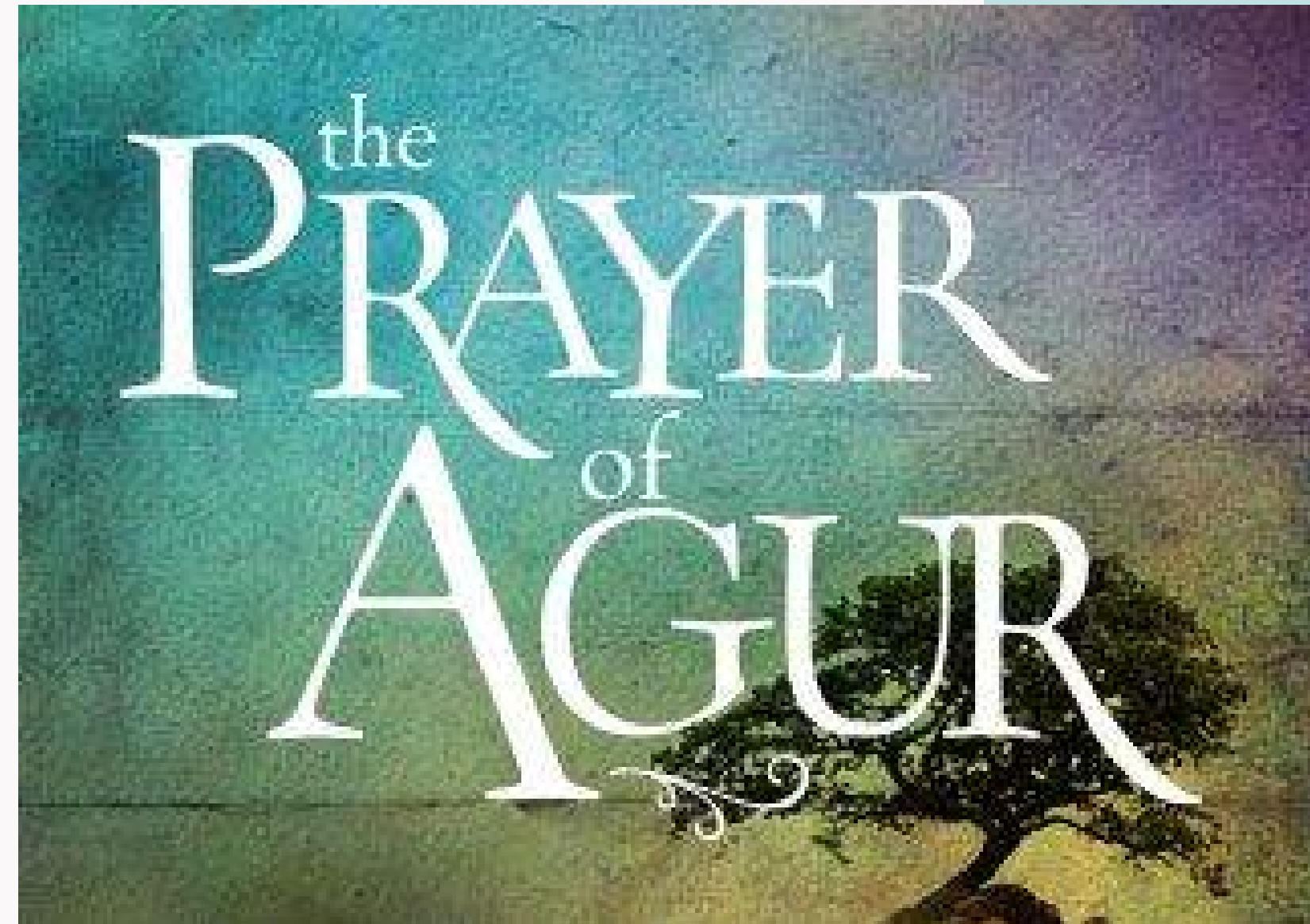


If I Were A Rich Man



PROVERBS 30

7 'Two things I ask of you, Lord; do not refuse me before I die: 8 keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. 9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonour the name of my God.



DISOWN / DISHONOUR GOD

9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.

JAMES 1

9 Believers who are poor have something to boast about, for God has honoured them.

NLT



MONEY & SOCIAL STATUS



FAVOURITISM



**PURSUIT OF
WEALTH**



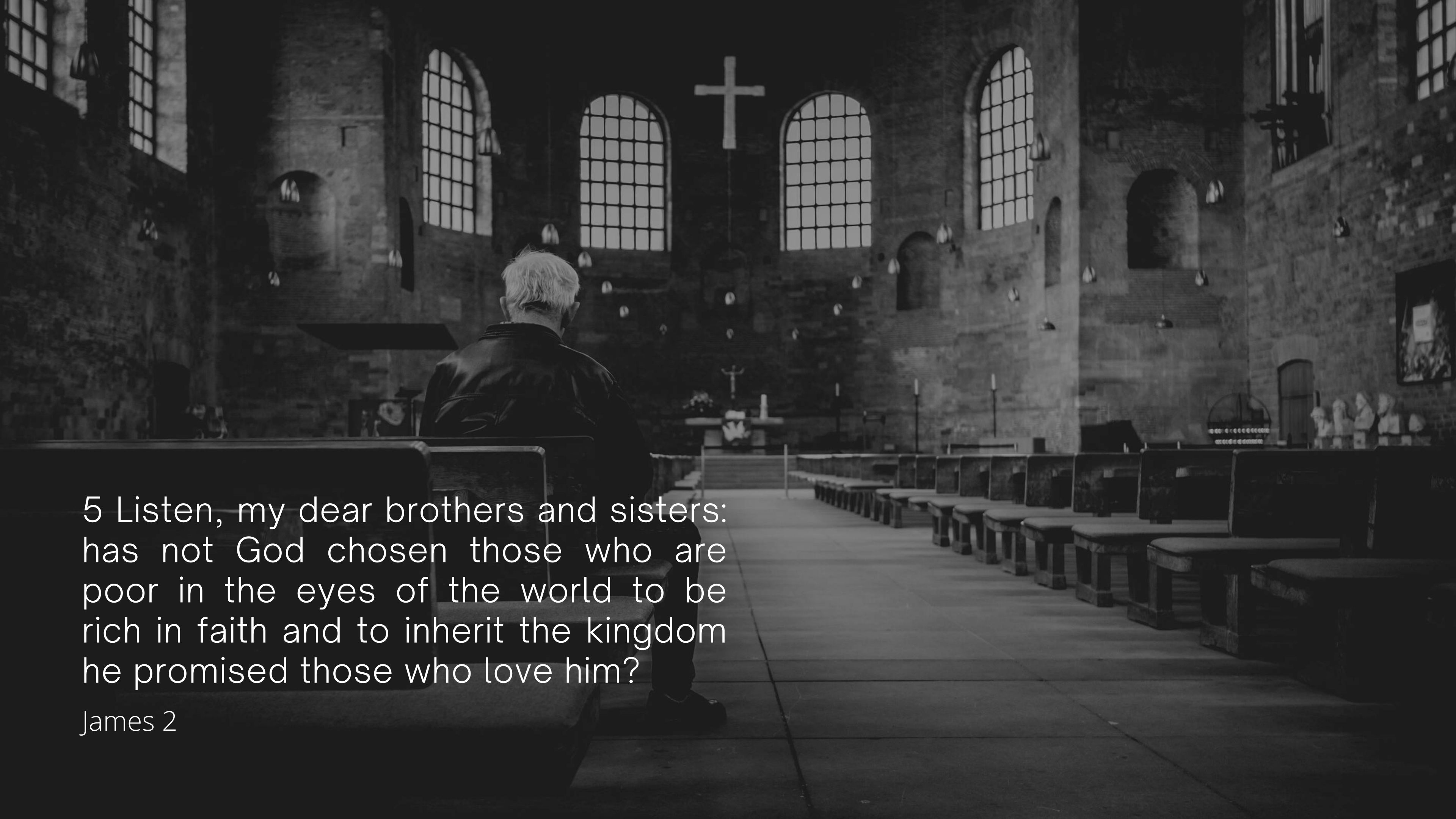
**HOARDING OF
WEALTH**



Spiritual Wealth

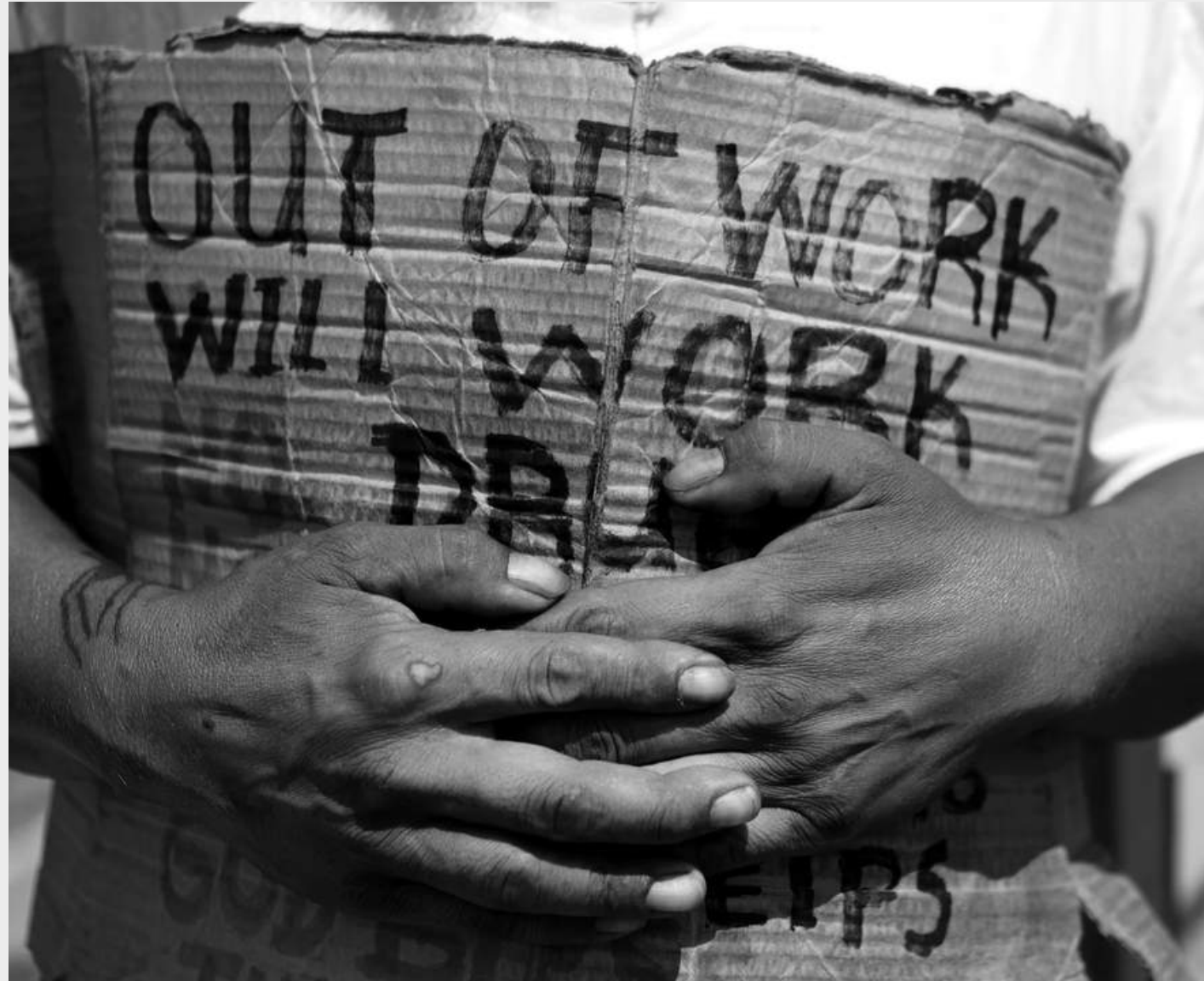
**Blessed are you
who are poor,
for yours is the
kingdom of God.**

Luke 6:20



5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters:
has not God chosen those who are
poor in the eyes of the world to be
rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom
he promised those who love him?

James 2



The Advantages To Being Poor

Monika Hellwig



- The poor know they are in urgent need of redemption.
- The poor know not only their dependence on God and on powerful people but also their interdependence with one another.
- The poor rest their security not on things but on people.
- The poor have no exaggerated sense of their own importance, and no exaggerated need of privacy.
- The poor expect little from competition and much from cooperation.
- The poor can distinguish between necessities and luxuries.



- The poor can wait, because they have acquired a kind of dogged patience born of acknowledged dependence.
- The fears of the poor are more realistic and less exaggerated, because they already know that one can survive great suffering and want.
- When the poor have the Gospel preached to them, it sounds like good news and not like a threat or a scolding.
- The poor can respond to the call of the Gospel with a certain abandonment and uncomplicated totality because they have so little to lose and are ready for anything.

Spiritual Wealth In Christ

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus

Ephesians 2

17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Romans 8

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Ephesians 1





BUT GODLINESS
WITH CONTENTMENT
IS GREAT GAIN.
1 TIMOTHY 6:6

7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,



1 Peter 1

THE POOR RICH

Spiritual Wealth In Christ

10 But the rich should take pride in their humiliation – since they will pass away like a wild flower. 11 For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

James 1

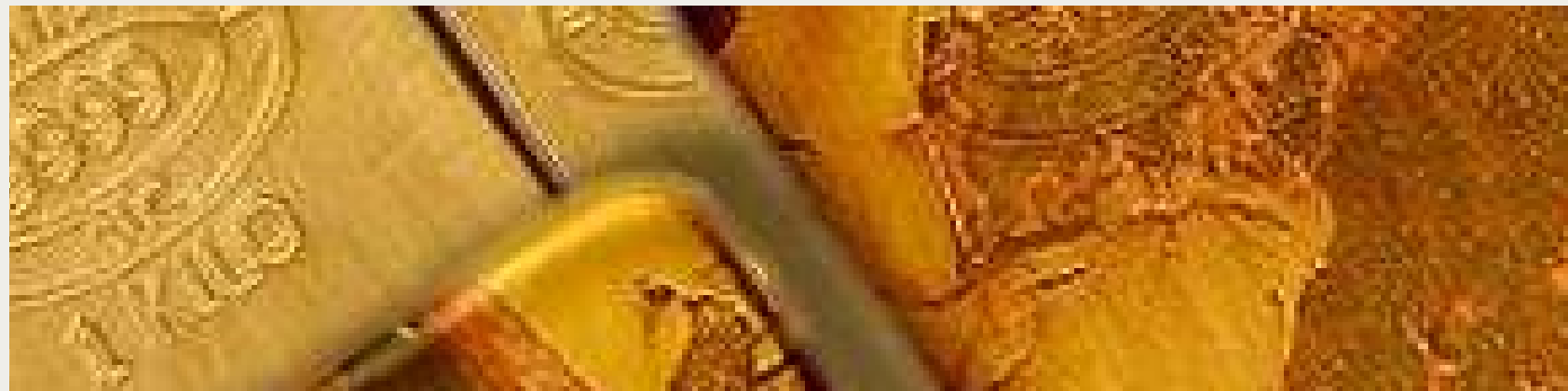




Vanity of Vanities

says the

PREACHER

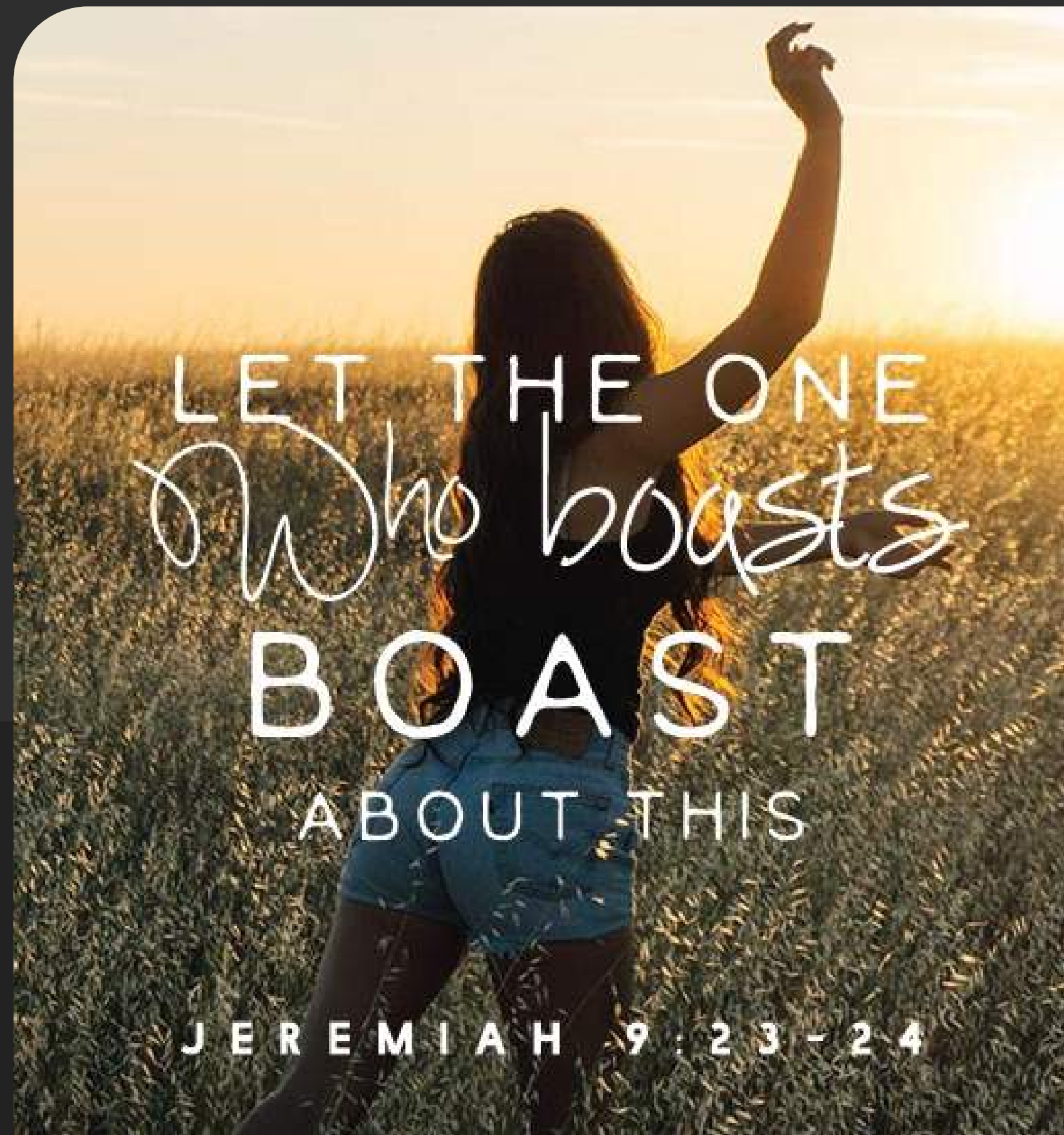


1 Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. 2 Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. 3 Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days.

James 1



23 This is what the Lord says: 'Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, 24 but let the one who boasts boast about this: **that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord,** who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,' declares the Lord.



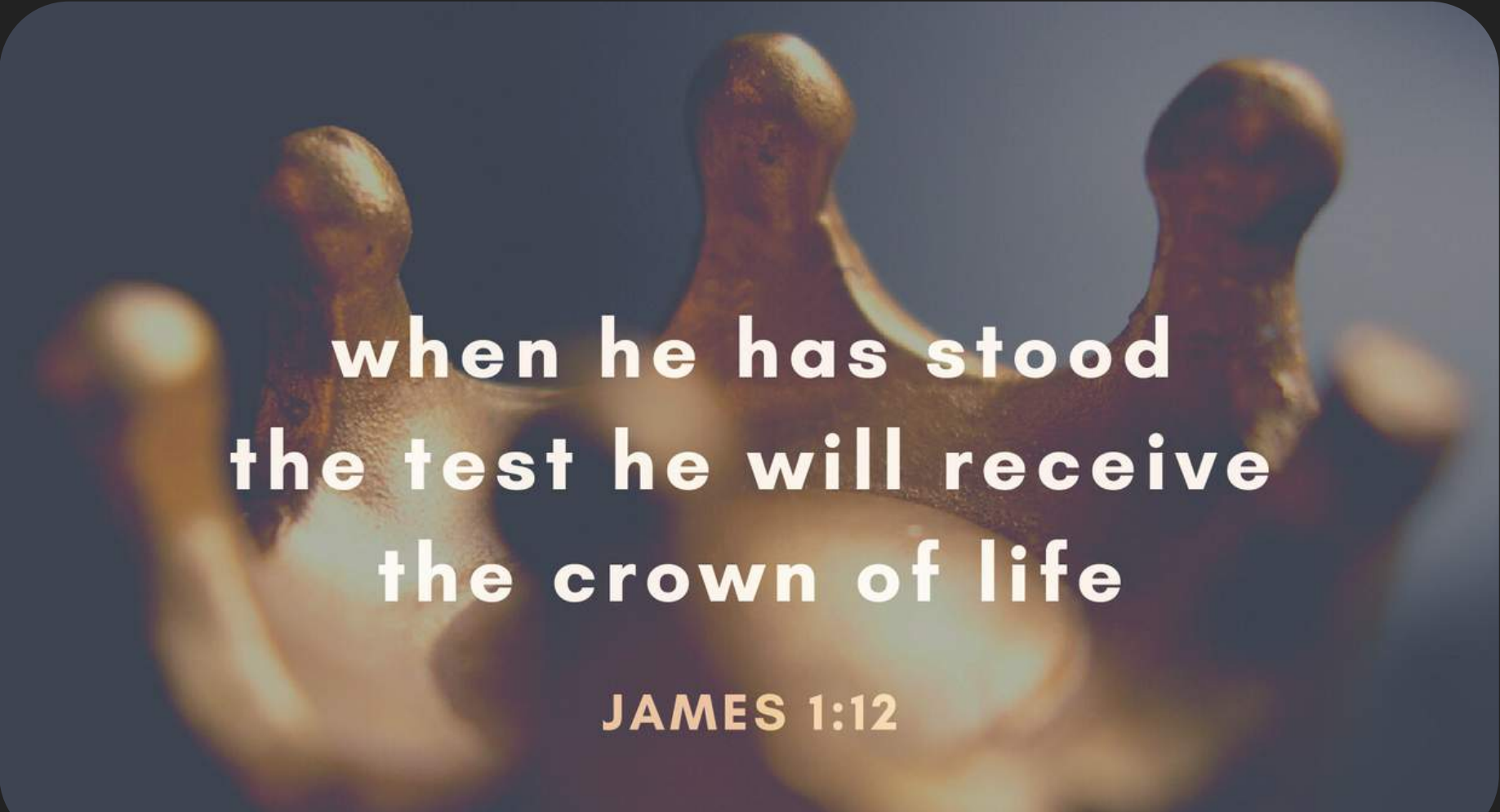
LET THE ONE
Who boasts
BOAST
ABOUT THIS

JEREMIAH 9:23-24

The Blessing of Perseverance

12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

James 1



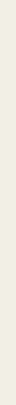
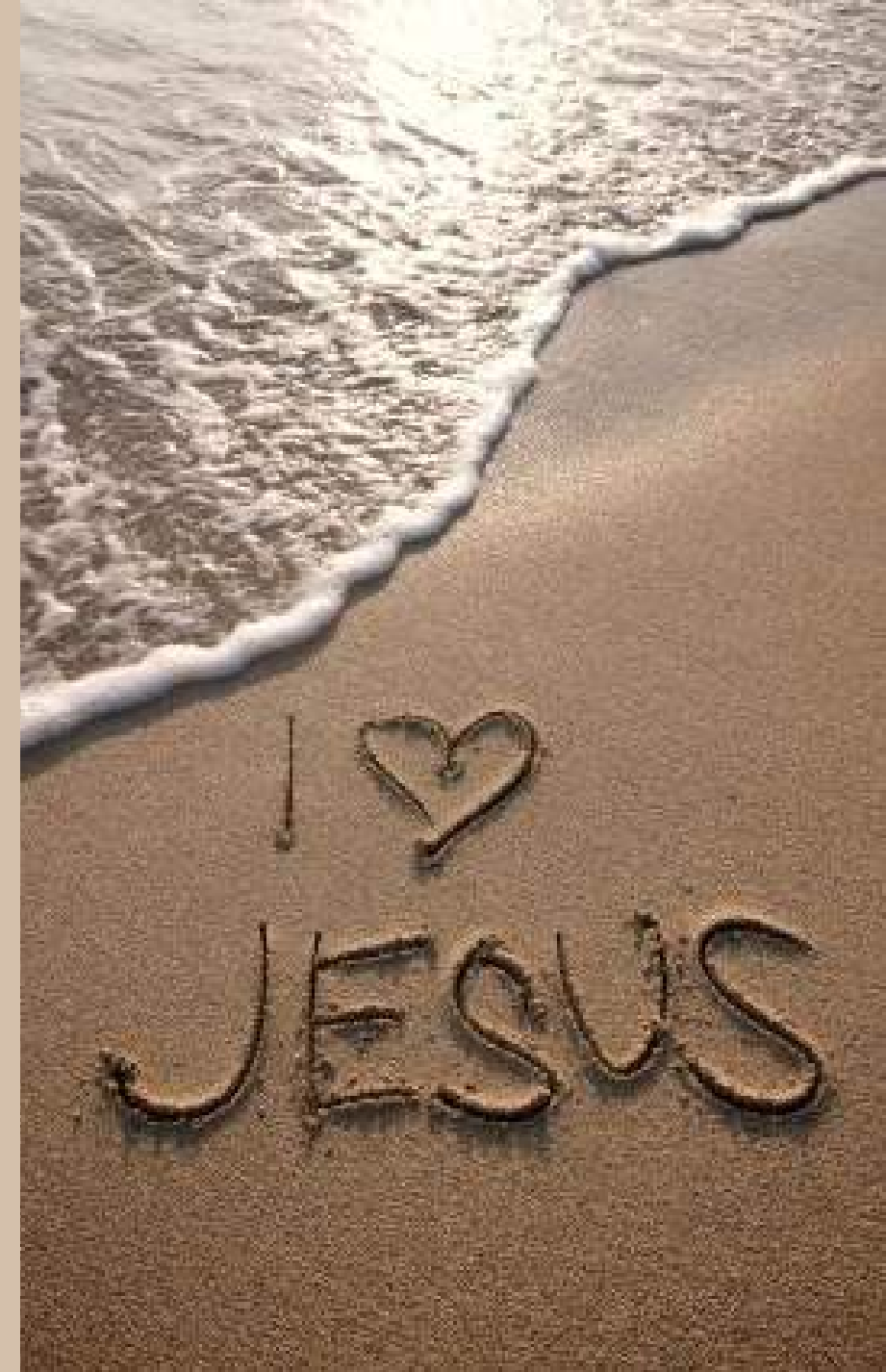
when he has stood
the test he will receive
the crown of life

JAMES 1:12

Love For Christ

STEVEN J COLE

I think it is because love for Christ keeps us from loving the world. Love for Christ motivates us to persevere under trials. Note that love for Christ does not exempt us from trials. Rather, it gives us the strength to persevere. Love for Jesus Christ is the necessary motivation to serve Him, especially when serving Him causes hardship and persecution. If you're struggling with perseverance in trials, examine the quality of your love for Christ.





POOR?
RICH?

A misty, blue-toned landscape with rolling hills and bare trees. The scene is hazy and atmospheric, with a soft, ethereal light. The hills are covered in a light layer of mist or fog, and the trees are silhouetted against the pale sky. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

"Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

James

4:14

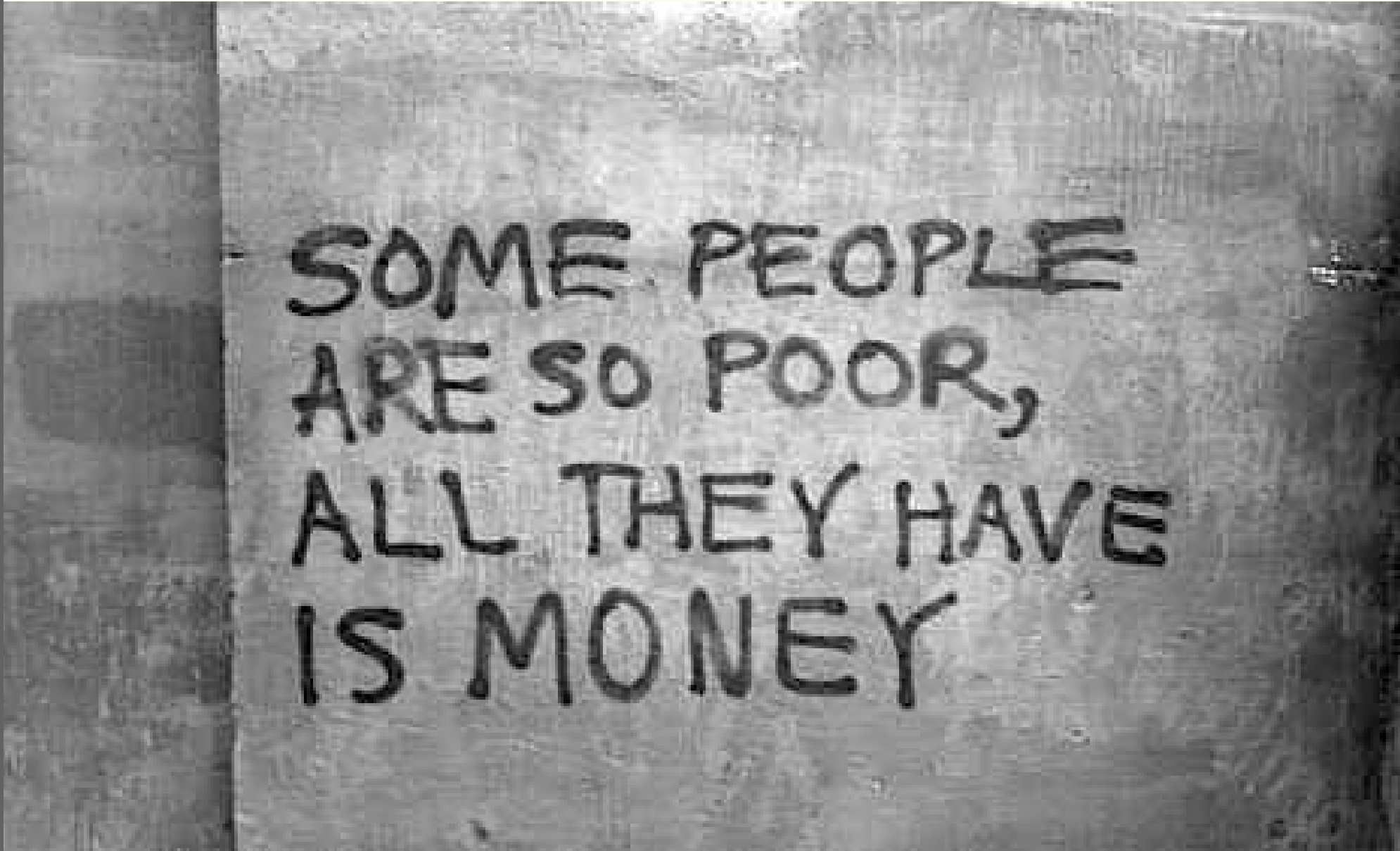
SPIRITUAL OR EARTHLY WEALTH?

19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

Luke 12



SOME PEOPLE
ARE SO POOR,
ALL THEY HAVE
IS MONEY