

JAMES
the Defender of
THE POOR

A Book Study

- ¹**James**, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad:
Greetings.

- ⁹Let **the lowly brother** boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰but **the rich *brother*** in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. ¹¹For no sooner the sun rises with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. **So will the rich man fade away in his pursuits.**

- **2** My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, **with partiality.** ² For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, ³ **and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, “You sit here in a good place,” and say to the poor man, “You stand there,” or, “Sit here at my footstool,”** ⁴ have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?
- ⁵ Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world **to be rich in faith** and **heirs of the kingdom** which He promised to those who love Him?⁶ **But you have dishonored the poor man.** Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? ⁷ Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

- Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotten and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evident against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. Behold the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of the hosts” (5:1-5)