

I. Clear Command (1)

The tense in the Greek indicates this practice was already occurring

II. Introspective **Illustration (2-4)**

-This focuses on distinctions being made within the church & not simply out in the world. -Do we do this today?

-What qualities make us ineffective judges? \rightarrow We are flawed \rightarrow Our sight is limited

III. Reliance Reminder (5-7)

The Social Argument

-If you favor the Rich, then you have mixed up Kingdom principles and are emphasizing faith in the wrong things!

-You are supporting putting faith in riches instead of in God!

IV. Significant Standard (8-11)

The Moral Argument

-Showing favoritism would NOT be loving our neighbor as ourselves. -If we violate any part of the law, we

become a lawbreaker. -If we are a lawbreaker, we will be judged by the full weight of the law. -We are hopeless without Christ. James' argument here shows how weighty of a matter it is to show favoritism.

V. Alternate **Action (12-13)**

Mercy vs. Judgment

We must view others through the lens of mercy instead of judgment, because that's how we need God to view us \rightarrow

Continued discussion from Chapter 1:19-27...Another example of how to practically apply the Word of Truth (1:22) and pure and undefiled religion (1:27)

James 2:1-13

EVERYONE is SOMEONE Christ died for

¹My brothers, show no **partiality** as you hold *the faith* in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

² For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your **assembly**, and a *poor man in shabby* clothing also comes in, God views people differently than man does -1 Sam 16:7

³ and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," partiality

⁴ have you not then made **distinctions** among yourselves and **become judges with evil thoughts**?

⁵ 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?

⁶ But you have *dishonored* the poor man. Are not **the rich** the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court?

⁷ Are they not the ones who **blaspheme the honorable** towards God (6-7) name by which you were called?

⁸ If you really fulfill the **royal law** according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

⁹ But if you show *partiality*, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty.

¹³ For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

If God views us through the lens of judgment, we will be condemned by the "law of liberty" -James 1:25

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers Used by permission. All rights reserved.

This Study Guide can be downloaded in PDF format from: (deepinthebible.com)

Deep in the Bible

Study of James (2:1-13)

in Christ → Why?

Partiality (προσωπολημψία) Literally = "receive face" -James is instructing not to show favoritism based on outward appearances -Showing partiality is inconsistent with Faith

ALL of us...

*Are created in the image of God -Gen 1:26-27

*Are loved by God -Jn 3:16 *Are sinners deserving of death -Rom 3:23

*Can be redeemed by the blood of Christ -Rom 5:18

God shows NO partiality -Acts 10:34-35; Rom 2:9-11

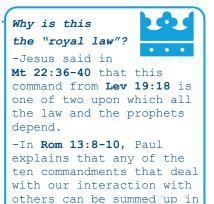
Poor = Rich in Faith towards God (5)

*They do not have as many distractions to tempt them to rely on self

-1 Cor 1:26-29 -James 1:9-11

Rich = Poor in Faith

*They can more easily be tempted to put faith in themselves and their riches *Mt 19:16-30



this one command. The only way we can receive God's mercy is to show mercy to others

-Mt 6:14-15; 18:21-35