

A STUDY OF THE EPISTLE OF JAMES

Genuine Faith

II THE DISTINCTIVES OF GENUINE FAITH - James 1:19 - 5:6

LESSON 4 ~ Faith Removes Discrimination ~ James 2:1-13

KEY VERSE

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? (James 2:5)

PONDER²

READ James 2:1-13.

WRITE the *word, phrase, or verse* that spoke to you the most. Explain. _____

GENUINE FAITH VERSUS FAVORITISM

READ James 2:1-4.

1. WRITE in your own words the thought that James introduces to the brothers and sisters (v. 1). _____

³

2. What example did James use to explain his thought (vv. 2, 3)? _____

¹ Genuine: authentic, real.

² PONDER: think about and consider carefully God's spiritual truths as revealed in the Word of God.

³ Lord - Greek *Kurios* Supremacy: Supreme in authority, Controller by implication, God, Lord Master.
Glory - Greek *Doxa* : dignity, honor, praise.

PERSONAL

How have you been guilty of this very same thing? _____

What was your true motive as you placed judgment on another person? _____

3. James sums up the real reason for this behavior. What is it (v. 4)? _____

4. What does the Savior and Paul the Apostle warn and declare about judging others?

Matthew 7:1, 2 _____

Romans 2:1-11 _____

Why is it sinful to place judgment on other people? _____

THE RICH IN FAITH

READ James 2:5-7.

1. How does James demand attention to his following question (v. 5)? _____

4

WRITE the question. _____

2. What does James accuse the *brethren* of doing (v. 6a)? _____

3. What does he accuse the *rich in the world* of doing (vv. 6b, 7)? _____

5

LOOK DEEPER

What do you learn about Jesus and His attitude toward the poor versus the rich in the following Scriptures?

Matthew 11:4, 5 _____

Matthew 26:11 _____

Mark 12:41-44 _____

Luke 1:52, 53 _____

Luke 4:18 _____

⁴ brethren: believers, Christians, the Church.

⁵ noble name: the worthy name of Christ; a sign of ownership.

Luke 6:20-26 _____

PERSONAL

SEARCH deep in your heart, where is your treasure? Are you rich or poor? _____

THE ROYAL LAW

READ James 2:8-12.

1. According to James, what is the *Royal Law* (v. 8)? _____

WRITE the Royal Law from Leviticus 19:18. _____

2. How does one commit sin and what is the source of conviction this sin (James 2:9)? _____

3. How does partiality to people violate God's Law (v. 10)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What is the greatest Commandment? On what two Commandments hang all the *Law and the Prophets* (Matthew 22:37-40)?

What is God's Law (Exodus 20:1-17)? _____

4. Who becomes a transgressor of the Law (James 2:11)? _____

NOTE

The Law of Moses could not save man from his sin. We are saved by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. He brought us under the Law of liberty. In Him, we have been set free from the Law of Moses.

5. How will believers be judged (v. 12)? _____

THE MERCIFUL

READ James 2:13.

1. How is one judged who has shown no mercy⁶ (v. 13)? _____

What is the promise of mercy? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What do you learn about God's mercy from the following Scriptures?

Exodus 20:5, 6 _____

Numbers 14:18 _____

I Chronicles 16:34 _____

⁶ mercy - Greek *eleos*: compassion human or Divine, tender mercy, kindness and good will toward the miserable and afflicted or to those deserving punishment.

Psalm 62:12 _____

Psalm 89:2 _____

Psalm 100:5 _____

Psalm 108:4 _____

Psalm 119:64 _____

Lamentations 3:22, 23 _____

Micah 6:8 _____

Matthew 9:13 _____

Luke 1:50 _____

Romans 9:15, 16 _____

2 Corinthians 4:1 _____

Ephesians 2:4 _____

Hebrews 4:16 _____

PERSONAL

What impacted you the most about God's mercy? _____

WRITE out the KEY VERSE _____

*If you really fulfill the Royal Law
according to the Scripture,
'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,'
you do well.*

James 2:8

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Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

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