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


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

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GENUINE FAITH VERSUS FAVORITISM


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

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

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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?

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

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

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4. What does the Savior and Paul the Apostle warn and declare about judging others?
   Matthew 7:1, 2

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Romans 2:1-11

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Why is it sinful to place judgment on other people?

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THE RICH IN FAITH
READ James 2:5-7.

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

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)?

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

brethren: believers, Christians, the Church.

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

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?
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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