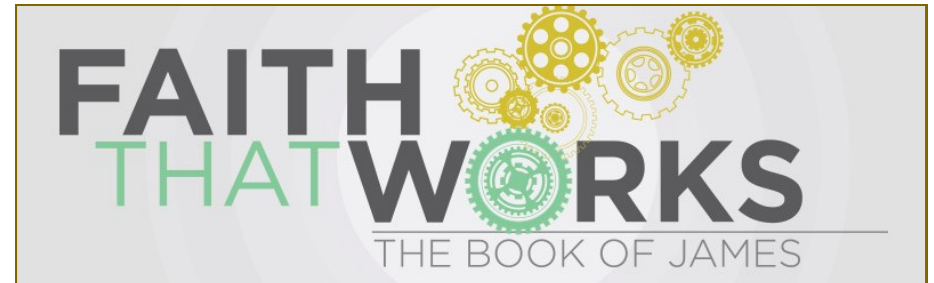


church feel welcomed? How do I respond when I encounter people who are different from me in ways I don't like or are uncomfortable with?

How can we pray for one another and our church this week?



#11 Problem of Partiality (2:1-4)

Sermon
Notes

May 12, 2019

1. The Principle

Quotes to Ponder

James sees this matter of partiality as a test of real faith. Favoritism is an indication of a heart that at best is in need of spiritual help and at worst is a heart without grace.

R.K. Hughes

When Christians show favoritism toward people in the assembly, they implicitly claim God's own right to stand in judgment over other people.

Douglas Moo

One way to test your grasp of God's mercy is to ask how you treat other sinners.

J. Ligon Duncan

True faith has no place for the social distinctions of the world.

Peter H. Davids

When we attempt to discern people's value based on external features, we not only try to usurp God's role as Judge, but we fail miserably in the process.

Craig L. Blomberg

If we expect God to be fair and impartial with us, we should be fair and impartial with others.

There will be no poor in heaven in any sense, no second-class citizens. Everyone will be rich in the things that matter eternally. Every believer will receive the same eternal life, the same heavenly citizenship in the kingdom of God, and the same perfect righteousness of Christ imputed to them by the Father. Every one of His children will live in His house and bask alike in His presence and love.

John MacArthur

2. The Illustration

3. The Indictment

1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you?
 2. Why does James say that partiality is incompatible with faith (*James 2:1*)?
 3. How does *James 2:1-4* fit with what James said in *1:26-27*?
 4. What does James mean when he writes, *do not hold your faith* (*James 2:1*)?
 5. How does James describe Jesus in *2:1*? What does this mean?
 6. Why are we apt to give preferential treatment to those who are rich and not to the poor (*James 2:2-3*)?
 7. Why is it wrong to treat people differently according to external things?
 8. How does showing favoritism indicate a feeling of superiority?
 9. What does showing *personal favoritism* reveal about our own spiritual condition (*James 2:4*)?
 10. What are some of the specific ways we *become judges with evil motives* (*James 2:4*)?
 11. Is James telling us we can never give differential treatment to anyone? Explain.
 12. What do the following verses tell us about our God?
Deuteronomy 10:17-18 — *Acts 10:34-35* —

2 Chronicles 19:7 — *Romans 2:11* —

Job 34:19 — *Ephesians 6:9* —
 13. What do the following verses tell us?
Leviticus 19:15 — *James 2:9* —

Deuteronomy 16:19 —
 14. Read *Romans 5:8*. How should what God does for us motivate us in how we see others?
- Reflection Questions:** Toward what people do I tend to show favoritism? Why? How can I avoid showing partiality this week? What are some ways I label others that I need to stop doing? How do I make guests at