

June 7, 2015
James 2:1-13

TREATING PEOPLE RIGHT

I. Introduction:

II. Unpacking The Passage:

A. The Principle _____

"My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism." James 2:1

Definition of Favoritism:

Areas of Discrimination:

*
*
*
*
*

B. The Problem:

1. Favoritism is _____ (Vs. 1)

"For God does not show favoritism" Romans 2:11

Acts 10:34; Ephesians 6:9, Colossians 3:25

"Accept one another as Christ has accepted you."
Romans 15:7

2. Favoritism is _____ (Vs. 5-7)

James asks 3 Questions:

Is it not the rich who are exploiting you?

Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

[7] Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?

3. Favoritism is _____ (Vs. 8-9)

“...when a young lawyer asked, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?”(37) Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ (38) This is the first and great commandment. (39) And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ (40) On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” Matthew 22:36-40

“Love your neighbor as yourself” Galatians 5:14

"If a man says he loves God and hates his brother he's lying. How can you love God whom you haven't seen if you don't love your brother whom you have seen?" I John 4:20

C. The Prescription: _____

[12] **Speak** and **act** as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, [13] because judgment without **mercy** will be shown to anyone who has not been **merciful**. **Mercy** triumphs over **judgment!**" James 2:12-13

Remember:

We will be judged by our _____.

We will be judged by our _____.

We will be judged by our _____.

Points To Ponder
Week of June 7th to 13th 2015
James 2:1-13

Open It

1. *How much money would it take to make you consider yourself rich?
2. For what reasons might a person think he or she is more important than another person?
3. Where do you see prejudice being practiced?

Explore It

4. What practical example did James use to illustrate how favoritism was practiced in the church? ([2:1-4](#))
5. *What has God promised to the poor of this world? ([2:5](#))
6. *What does the church do to the poor person when it shows favoritism toward the rich? ([2:6](#))
7. *What do rich people have a history of doing to people in the church? ([2:6-7](#))
8. What is the royal law found in Scripture? ([2:8](#))
9. What does practicing favoritism do to a person who is trying to keep the law? ([2:9](#))
10. What does a person have to do to be considered a lawbreaker? ([2:10-11](#))
11. By what standards should a person speak and act? ([2:12](#))
12. What promise is made to people who judge without mercy? ([2:13](#))
13. Why should we be merciful? ([2:13](#))

Get It

14. In what ways have you been a victim of favoritism or prejudice?
15. How have you shown favoritism or prejudice toward other people?
16. Why do we often treat rich people as more important than poor people?
17. How do we use physical appearance, job status, and athletic ability to show favoritism toward people?
18. *How can we welcome poor people in our church?
19. Why does God have a special concern for poor people?
20. *In what practical ways can we show genuine love to people of different races, cultures, and economic standing?
21. Why is favoritism or prejudice often overlooked as a sin?
22. Why would God condemn us as lawbreakers if our sins are only "minor" ones, such as prejudice?

Apply It

23. From whom can you ask forgiveness this week for showing prejudice toward him or her?
24. *How can you change the way you look at wealth this week so that you value it as God does?