

Impartial Faith

James 2:1-13

A Change Of Thinking Is Required

Deuteronomy 16:19

Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.

Romans 2:11

For there is no respect of persons with God.

2 Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

I. The Problem (2:1-3)

James 2:1-3

1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

2 For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;

3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:

A Test or A Temptation?

I. The Problem (2:1-3)

Looking as man sees

1 Samuel 16:7

But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

2 Corinthians 10:7

Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? if any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's.

II. The Pronouncement (2:4)

James 2:4

Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?

John 7:24

Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

III. The Perspective (2:5-7)

James 2:5-7

5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

6 But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

7 Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

III. The Perspective (2:5-7)

A. The poverty of Christ

2 Corinthians 8:9

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Matthew 8:20

And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

III. The Perspective (2:5-7)

A. The poverty of Christ - continued

1. Borrowed stable

2. Borrowed loaves and fishes

3. Borrowed a boat to speak

4. Borrowed a coin to illustrate a truth

5. Borrowed a donkey to enter Jerusalem

6. Borrowed a room to observe the Passover

7. Borrowed the cross meant for Barabbas

8. Borrowed a tomb to be buried in

III. The Perspective (2:5-7)

B. Of Scripture

Psalm 9:18

For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.

Psalm 68:10

Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor.

III. The Perspective (2:5-7)

B. Of Scripture - continued

Psalm 72:12-13

12 For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper.

13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.

Psalm 102:17

He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

IV. The Prescription (2:8-13)

James 2:8-9

**8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture,
Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:**

**9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and
are convinced of the law as transgressors.**

Are we passing or failing the test?

IV. The Prescription (2:8-13)

James 2:10-11

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

Failing the test means sin

IV. The Prescription (2:8-13)

James 2:12-13

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

Matthew 5:7-9

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

**We Are Judged By
How We Judge?**

