



"Apps for Life"  
A Study of James

James 2:1-13

March 11, 2012

IV. The Favoritism App: The Favoritism Test (2:1-13)

James—an examination: (I Sam 16:7; II Cor 13:5)

1. The first test that you must take in James is the 'Trials Test!' 1:2-12
2. The second test is the 'Temptation Test!' 1:13-15
3. The third test is the 'Obedience Test!' 1:19-27

The Favoritism Test! How do we treat people? How do we respond to people who are different from us? Four truths to consider:

A. The way you respond to people reveals the condition of your heart! (2:1-4)

1. Jesus never showed favoritism to anyone.
2. Jesus could relate to poor. (Isa 53:3)
3. God is no respector of persons. (Deut 10:17)
4. Partiality simply means to show favor to one person over another because of outward appearance. (Rom 2:11)

"The way we behave toward people indicates what we really believe about God!" -Warren Wiersbe

"At the end of the day, what impresses us, dictates us." -Beth Moore

B. If anything, we should favor the poor! (2:5-7; I Cor 2:27-29)

"How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." -Jesus Christ

1. The reason we should show favor to the poor is because God does. (Ps 72:12)

"All throughout Scripture, the poor are objects of God's special concern." -John MacArthur

2. The way you respond to the poor, is a reflection of the condition of your heart.

C. To show favoritism is to sin! (2:8-11).

1. The law is like a chain comprised of many links.
2. The chain is the law.
3. When you break one of its links then you have broken the whole law, and that makes you a lawbreaker. (Rom 3:10-12)
4. When you show favoritism, you are not loving your neighbor as yourself.

"The doctrine of God's grace, if we really believe it, forces us to relate to people on the basis of God's plan and not on the basis of human merit or social status. A '[social] class church' is not a church that magnifies the grace of God." -Warren Wiersbe

D. One day, we will each have to stand before Jesus and give an account of how we treated others. (2:12-13)

1. Our actions reveal the condition of our heart, and reveal to those around us if we are truly saved. (Jas 2:17; II Cor 5:10)

"Living faith will be demonstrated by a holy life."  
-John MacArthur

2. Christians will never face condemnation because our sins have already been judged at the cross. (Rom 8:1)

3. A person who never shows mercy is probably not a believer.

4. If a man is merciful, then he can expect to receive God's mercy on the Day of Judgment.