

Pride and Prejudice
James 2:1–13

Merriam Webster's definition of racism... "a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race."

"prejudice"

- a. An adverse judgment or opinion formed beforehand or without knowledge or examination of the facts.
- b. A preconceived preference or idea.

1. The act or state of holding unreasonable preconceived judgments or convictions.
2. Irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion.
3. Detriment or injury caused to a person by the preconceived, unfavorable conviction of another or others.

OR

1. To cause (someone) to judge prematurely and irrationally.
2. To affect injuriously or detrimentally by a judgment or an act.

James 1:22

Five Problematic Properties of Prejudice

1. Prejudice is PROHIBITED by God (v. 1)

Lit: "receiving the face." This word seems to have been invented by the NT writers as a literal word for the Hebrew word for partiality. (Rom. 2:11; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:29). To "receive the face" means to **make judgements about people based on external appearances.**

Deuteronomy 10:17-18

Leviticus 19:15-18

Acts 10:34

Romans 2:11...

2. Prejudice is PRODUCED by Externalism (vv. 2-4)

1 Samuel 16:1–12

3. Prejudice is PROVOKED by Foolishness (vv. 5-7)

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

4. Prejudice is PERMEATED with guilt (vv. 8-11)

Leviticus 19:18

Matthew 22:37-40

5. Prejudice is PENALIZED in Judgement (vv. 12-13)

Ecclesiastes 12:13–14

James 3:8–10

Zechariah 7:9-10

Matthew 18:21-35.

Matthew 5-7

Micah 6:8

Take-aways...

1. Recognize the ways you pre-judge others. (Be honest with yourself!)
2. Remember God's pre-judgment of you, but how he loved you through the gospel anyway.
3. Adopt God's two primary PRE-ASSESSMENTS about all people...
 - Every person is made in the image of God and as such possessed eternal value
 - Every person is a sinner in need of a Savior