



JAMES

— TRANSFORMED BY FAITH →

TRUE RELIGION: LOVES INCONVENIENTLY

James 2:1-7

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

DIAGNOSING OUR HYPOCRISY

James 2:1-4

DECLARING GOD'S GENEROSITY

James 2:5

DRAWN TO LOVE INCONVENIENTLY

James 2:6-7

DRAWN TO LOVE INCONVENIENTLY

- We recognize external factors (wealth, social status) as reasons to love rather than excuses *not* to love.
- Christ's posture towards sinners is increasingly *our* posture towards sinners.
- We welcome outsiders into relationships within God's family.



We love because he first loved us.

— 1 John 4:19

FOR REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

- Since we have been brought to see and share true, eternal riches, how should we assess earthly wealth?
- Where is the Holy Spirit calling me to repent of choosing convenience over care for others?
- Who am I being drawn to love inconveniently?
- How can I grow my worship for Jesus, the Lord of Glory?



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