James 2:5-13

Ken Chapman · James 2:5–13 · Series: **James Study**

INTRODUCTION

- He had shown the inconsistency that if we have faith in our Lord who does not show partiality, then neither can we who hold the faith of Jesus show partiality.
- Have you not shown partiality among yourselves? And have become judges with evil thoughts.
- God is not a respecter of persons, and neither should we be.

1 God Has Chosen the Poor

James 2:5–7; James 1:9

- Listen, my beloved brethren, has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him.
- The poor seek God and they find him in the gospel.
- The poor are those who are more apt to respond to the gospel and are going to be elevated in their spiritual status.
- It's the poor who are most receptive to the gospel, and it is the rich who are most likely to oppress you and to drag you into courts.
- So not only is this a sin, but it just doesn't make sense.

2 The Royal Law: Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

James 2:8–9

- If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, you shall love your neighbor as yourself, you do well.
- But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.
- If we make a distinction based upon someone's wealth, based upon the color of someone's skin, he says that is sin, and we will be convicted of that sin.

3 Stumble in One Point, Guilty of All

James 2:10–11

- For whoever shall keep the whole law and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.
- If we do not keep the law that says you shall love your neighbor as yourself, it doesn't matter if we've kept all the other commandments.
- For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder.
- We may wear a mantle of piety all that we want and say, I did this, I did this, I did this.
- But if we show partiality and prejudice in our hearts and actions, then we commit sin, and we're going to be convicted by the law.

4 Judged by the Law of Liberty

James 2:12; James 1:25

- So speak, and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.
- We love our neighbor as ourselves, all of our neighbors, rich and poor, black or white.

5 Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment

James 2:13

- For judgment is without mercy to the one who is shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.
- Is it going to be a partial judgment or an impartial judgment?
- Are we going to become judges with evil thoughts by showing partiality? If so, then judgment will be shown to us without mercy.
- That God will love us and forgive us as we love and forgive our fellow man.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **How do I want God to deal with me in judgment? Do I want Him to be a harsh judge with partiality? Or do I want Him to be merciful and forgiving?**

MY NOTES