

Studies In The Book James

Faith In Action!

Lesson 10

Read James 2:1 – 9

Introduction: *James condemns acts of favoritism. Often we treat a well-dressed, impressive person better than someone who looks shabby. We do this because we would rather identify with successful people than with apparent failures. The irony, as James reminds us, is that the supposed winners may have gained their impressive lifestyle at our expense. In addition, the rich find it difficult to identify with the Lord Jesus Christ, who came as a humble servant. God views all people as equals, and if he favors anyone, it is the poor and the powerless. We should follow His example.*

Life Application Study Bible

1. According to James 2:1 the question we're presented with is how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others? This is a great question to be asking. Have you been guilty of favoritism, prejudice *with partiality* in your relationships with other people? (If you're comfortable explain what happened)
 - What do we learn from the following scriptures about *partiality* and helping others?
 - Exodus 23:3
 - Deuteronomy 1:17
 - Deuteronomy 10:17 – 19?

- Proverbs 18:5

- Proverbs 24:23

- Ephesians 6:5 – 9

- 1 Corinthians 1:26 – 29

2. According to Matthew 25:31 – 40 with what standards will Jesus judge the people who will enter into His kingdom?

- What did Jesus teach us about being prejudiced and showing partiality according to Mark 12:38 – 44 and John 7:24?

3. What is the definition of *partiality* according to James 2:1 – 4?

- What further understanding do we receive from James 2:9 and from Leviticus 19:15 – 18?

4. How has *God chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which He promised to those who love Him* according to Matthew 5:3, 6?

- James tells us if we show favoritism we dishonor the poor. What will the rich do according to James 2:6 – 7?

5. If we really want to fulfill the law what should be our attitude according to James 2:8?

- What did Jesus say in Matthew 22:36 – 40?

- How do love, compassion and concern for our neighbor change the way we look at the less fortunate?