

James tells us our attitudes and actions are both able to be shaped by a wisdom which looks upward to the example of Christ.

Favoritism:

treating people _____ based upon _____

what happens _____ in our _____ begins _____ in our _____

failing to love _____ of our neighbors is the same as failing to love _____ of our neighbors

Greek *eleutheria* = freedom | Greek *eleos* = mercy

Jesus brings a law of love which results in my _____ instead of my _____

Jesus chooses to show _____ instead of showing _____

“my only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.”

Upward Wisdom

James 2:1–13 (NIV)



^{2:1} My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show **favoritism**.

² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show **favoritism**, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives **freedom**, ¹³ because judgment without **mercy** will be shown to anyone who has not been **merciful**. **Mercy** triumphs over judgment.

Upward Wisdom

James 2:1-13



Understanding the Bible:
What is the problem being
expressed in this Bible passage?

How does God show up in this Bible Passage?

According to today's Bible passage, what triumphs over
judgment?

My favorite song today:

Things I will pray for this week:

Today's Bible Passage: James 2:1-13

(Can you find the highlighted words?)

M U R D E R G P U B V O H
E G E G C L O T H E S R D
R B K S U S L F I L T H Y
C J E S U S D F A I R V S
Y C E C A D U L T E R Y J
E E P H O C C A K V C G P
W S J L S M H A C E O F O
E B R O T H E R S R M T O
A F A V O R I T I S M S R
R I C E B S H L S S I M I
I N K W E C G B T R T D C
N E A M J U D G E S I P H
G L O R I O U S R A J T Y
D C M J U Y T M S H O W F

My **brothers**
and **sisters**,
believers in our
glorious Lord
Jesus Christ
must not **show**
favoritism.
Suppose a man
comes into
your meeting
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and say,
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seat for you,"

but say to the **poor** man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and **become judges** with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear **brothers** and **sisters**: Has not God chosen those who are **poor** in the eyes of the world to be **rich** in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who **love** him? But you have dishonored the **poor**. Is it not the **rich** who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? If you really **keep** the royal law found in Scripture, "**Love** your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you **show favoritism**, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who **said**, "You shall not **commit adultery**," **also said**, "You shall not **murder**." If you do not **commit adultery** but do **commit murder**, you have **become a lawbreaker**. Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without **mercy** will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. **Mercy** triumphs over judgment.