

Questions

1. What sort of judgments have you made about other people based solely or mostly on their appearance? Think in terms of overlooking or disregarding one or trying to curry favor with another, based on a person's appearance or perceived status.
2. In what ways throughout the Bible do we see God showing the opposite of partiality?
3. What's the disconnect between partiality and the commandment to love neighbor as self? What did this indicate about how we are to love our neighbor?
4. How can James 2:10 play an important part in our explanation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to an unbeliever?
5. What does James 2:12 indicate about the value of God's Law for those who follow Jesus Christ? Why?
6. Do you meditate on God's Law and cherish it as one of God's chief means to give you freedom?
7. In what way is James 2:13 a warning to people who profess in Jesus Christ?
8. What is the meaning of "mercy triumphs over judgment"?

*After each service, if you need prayer,
someone will be available up front to pray with or for you.*

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The Evil of Partiality

James 2:1-13

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June 26, 2022

James 2:1-13 extends the argument from chapter one that a believer in Jesus Christ must interact differently with the world. James used the sin of partiality to illustrate the incompatibility of faith in Jesus Christ with typical ways that the world functions.

Partiality ("to lift the face") – To regard or disregard a person based on assumptions made from looking at that person's appearance (James 2:1; Leviticus 19:15; Malachi 1:8; Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11).

The Principle: Continuing to judge others based on assumptions made based on their appearance is incompatible with professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (2:1).

The Principle Illustrated (2:2-4) – James shows the ease with which such evil can be committed.

God's Law is Meant for Your Good (2:12)

Reasons Behind the Principle:

Contrary to God's Character (2:5)

Transgressing God's Law (2:8-10)

Defying the Law Giver (2:11)

Judgment Comes Full Circle (2:13a)

Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment (2:13b)