

## James 2:1-13

Pg 1011

**Title: The Sin of Favoritism James 2:1-13**

**Aim: God's royal law commands those who have received His mercy, to love our neighbor. Such love must reject all favoritism or risk certain judgment.**

### I. The Call to Reject Favoritism (v. 1)

### II. The Hypothetical Illustration (vv. 2-4)

### III. Logical Arguments for Rejecting Favoritism (vv. 5-7)

### IV. Biblical Arguments for Rejecting Favoritism (vv. 8-13)

## Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. In vv. 1-4, James forbids believers from showing favoritism and illustrates this for his reader. Can you think of an example from your own experience?
2. How should the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ change what we value? What are true riches (vv. 1, 5)?
3. In vv. 5-7, is James saying that the poor are always right and the rich are always wrong? Are we to devote ourselves exclusively to the poor and forget the rich? How does verse 8 inform these questions?
4. According to vv. 8-11, why is showing favoritism a sin? How would you answer someone who says that Christians don't have to worry about keeping God's law? What significance is there in the fact that the giving of God's law comes, not at the beginning of Exodus, but in Exodus 20?
5. In vv. 12, why is the expression 'the law of liberty' so surprising? How does obedience to God's law bring freedom? In v. 13, what does 'judgment without mercy' mean? Why is it so important to understand this? What is the real word of comfort and assurance that James brings us here?