

**JAMES**  
**Pt. 4 – “The Evil of Favoritism”**  
**Pastor Vernie Fletcher**  
**October 12th, 2014**

**James 2:1-4 (NIV)**

<sup>[1]</sup> My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, **don't show favoritism.**

<sup>[2]</sup> Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in.

<sup>[3]</sup> 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,"

<sup>[4]</sup> ...have you not discriminated among yourselves and become **judges** with evil thoughts?

**Philippians 2:3 (NIV)**

<sup>[3]</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

**James 2:5-8 (NIV)**

<sup>[5]</sup> Listen, my dear brothers: 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?

<sup>[6]</sup> But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

<sup>[7]</sup> Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?

<sup>[8]</sup> If you really keep the **royal law** found in Scripture, "Love your **neighbor** as yourself," you are doing right.

**The Good Samaritan**  
**(Luke 10:30-37)**

**John 13:34 (NIV)**

<sup>[34]</sup> "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

**James 2:9-13 (NIV)**

<sup>[9]</sup> But if you show **favoritism**, you sin and are convicted by the law as **lawbreakers**.

<sup>[10]</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

<sup>[11]</sup> For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

<sup>[12]</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be **judged** by the law that gives freedom,

<sup>[13]</sup> because **judgment without mercy** will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful.

**Mercy triumphs over judgment!**