Your Daily Appointments With God

MONDAY
Read James 2:5, 6. How does James explain what he wrote in the first four verses of chapter 2? Judging from James 2:5, 6, it would seem that there were big problems in the church among the rich and the poor. God chose the poor who were "*rich in faith*." And the rich used their wealth to make the poor suffer. This problem of the rich taking advantage of the poor was very real at that time. Even worse, Roman law made it possible for the rich to do this to the poor.

TUESDAY
Read James 2:7. What important point does James make here about the influence of this bad behavior? The wealthy's bad behavior really works against "*the good name*" of Jesus. Bad actions are bad enough in and of themselves. Yet what makes them worse is when those who claim the name of Jesus do them. Even worse those who, in the name of Jesus, who use their wealth or power to gain advantage over others.

WEDNESDAY
Read James 2:8, 9; Leviticus 19:17. What important message is given here? James calls God's law "the royal law" (James 2:8). This is because it is the law of the "KING OF KINGS" (Revelation 19:16).

THURSDAY
Read James 2:12, 13; John 12:48; Romans 2:12, 13; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12, 13. What do these verses teach about judgment? Nothing is clearer than the teaching that we will be judged by the law. This judgment is based on what we have done, whether for good or for evil. At the same time, too, the Bible is also clear that through faith in Jesus, we are covered by His righteousness (perfect life). This covering includes two parts: forgiveness (justification) and obedience (sanctification).

FRIDAY
Read James 2:10-11. Now read the verses listed in and group them as the "whole law," the "law of love," or both. Matthew 5:18-10; 22:36-40; Romans 13:8-10; Galatians 3:10, 5:3, 5:14

Presented by Jeff Rosenthal, Lead Pastor **10/24/2026**

Faith That Works in a Fractured World!

Part 5 – James 2:6-13

Intro: At the end of chapter 1 to chapter 2, James reveals his displeasure with those who show discrimination, favoritism and prejudice among God's people.

➢ *Let us look only to Jesus, the One who began our faith and who makes it perfect*. Hebrews 12:2 (NCV)

I. From A Biblical Perspective, There Is Only One Form Of Legitimate Favoritism In God's Church

A. God's Word says to _____ everybody else better than ourselves.

B. The legitimate favoritism Paul says in Philippians 2:3 (NLT), "*Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves."*

C. James is confronting a problem in the congregation to which he writes in vs. 4 (NKJV), *"have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?"*
• For James it's another of his tests of _____ faith.

D. James gives us Five Things to look at: *The principle,* then *the example,* then *the inconsistency,* then *the violation,* and then *the final appeal* in the last two verses of 12 and 13.
• First in verse 1 - "The Principle." *"My dear brothers and sisters, _____ can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ _____ you favor some people over others?"*
• The principle. How can I *"have in _____in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ"* and at the same time "*favor some people over others"* is a _____.

E. What James is saying is, do not practice partiality (prejudice) or favoritism. Because practicing partiality/favoritism and claiming to have _____ in Jesus Christ, is absolutely _____.

➢ *"Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him?"* James 2:5 (NLT)

-Continued inside-

F. **There are Five Things to look at:** ***The principle,*** and ***the example,*** we studied in Part 4, now in Part 5 James points out ***the inconsistency,*** then ***the violation,*** and ***the final appeal*** in verses of 12 and 13. Here James points out the absolute _____ of being disrespectful to poor people or people who are lower on some human level of evaluation.

G. James gives reasons why the rich are outside the sphere of faith and salvation. He gives "THREE REASONS."
- The rich: 1) _____; 2) drag the less fortunate into _____; and 3) _____ God's name.

➢ *"But you dishonor the poor! Isn't it the rich who oppress you and drag you into court?* vs. 7, *Aren't they the ones who slander Jesus Christ, whose noble name you bear?"* James 2:6-7 (NLT)

H. The "noble name" mentioned in vs. 7 is a very special name for God in the Old Testament – _____.
- So holy was this name, the Jews never pronounced it, and special care and reverence was taken when the name was written.
- Therefore, to exploit and oppress them is to slander their _____.

➢ *"Those who mock the poor insult their Maker; those who rejoice at the misfortune of others will be punished."* Proverbs 17:5 (NLT)

I. James's reaction to such discrimination demonstrates that it's not a small thing. It's not simply a little weakness of character – a natural tendency we all have in an evil sinful world.
- Favoritism to the rich for James, is more than a small flaw; it's _____.

➢ *"Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: "Love your neighbor as yourself."* vs. 9, *But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law*." James 2:8-9 (NLT)

J. **So in the Five Things to look at:** ***The principle, the example,*** in Part 5 now in Part 6, James points out ***the inconsistency*** in vs. 5**,** and now in vs. 10, _____.

K. The fact that James gives his prohibition against partiality to the rich at the expense of the poor is a kind of "_____" commandment showing how serious he is against favoritism.

L. In verse 10, the NKJV says, *"For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all."*
- Here's why it's such a serious issue. "*Whosoever shall keep the whole law*" – okay? – "*and yet stumble in one point*," he or she is – what? – "_____."

M. James has murder, adultery, partiality (prejudice), favoritism and _____ all equal.

N. Therefore, there should be no discrimination as far as *nationality, race, ethnic background, language, religion,* etc. are concerned.
- This teaching has as much relevance to us today as it had in the days of James and Paul. The sin of racism, discrimination, partiality and favoritism is alive today because of the _____ influence of ____ among the human race.

➢ "*So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free.* vs. 13, *There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you."* James 2:12-13 (NLT)

O. James closes with the fifth point, the "_____" starting in vs. 12.
- This is a call to take account of the danger of _____ judgment. God's grace doesn't cancel our duty to obey him; it gives our obedience a new basis. The law is no longer an external set of rules, it is a "_____."

P. The New Covenant according to Jeremiah 31:31 to 34 – "*writes God's law*" - on the what? – "_____."

Q. So, we must _____ and _____ with the knowledge that you, that we, will stand before the Jesus one day.

R. **"Faith That Works in a Fractured World!**" means that a _____, active faith will be revealed in Godly **behavior** with a personal mission statement like Micah 6:8, "*He has showed you, O man, [O Woman], what is good, and what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God*."
- **Vss. 6-13** implies a _____ that mercy triumphs over judgment for those who practice impartial love, mercy and obey the royal law.
- Genuine faith is demonstrated through _____, merciful love rather than cold, selective favoritism, prejudice or discrimination.