

# James 2:1-13

## Shoe-leather Christianity

For April 27, 2008

LESSON 4

Dr. Jerry Nelson

*Questions are to be completed the week of April 20 leading up to the sermon on April 27.*

## The Condemnation of Partiality

Read James 2:1-13 and answer the following questions:

1. (2:1) What rationale does James give for not showing favoritism?

Reflection: How does 2:1-7 build on 1:27 “orphans and widows”?

2. (2:2-4) Compare and contrast the two men who come into the meeting.

Compare and contrast the two responses.

What two attitudes does James say cause such favoritism?

Reflection: What “evil thoughts” might result in favoritism?

3. (2:2-5) Who has God chosen?

What results from his choice of them?

Reflection: How is “God’s choice” of them and their “love” for God compatible?

Reflection: What “inherited” “kingdom” has God promised?

4. (2:6-7) How has the “you” of this text insulted the poor? (Cf. 2:3-4)

In what three ways are the “rich” described?

Reflection: If James is not advocating revenge on rich people, what is his point? (Remember, favoritism is the subject.)

5. (2:8-9) What two actions are contrasted here?

What two results are contrasted here?

If you show favoritism, by what “law” are you convicted as a “lawbreaker”?

6. (2:10-11) Under what condition(s) is a person guilty of breaking the whole law?

How many laws must one break to be guilty of being a lawbreaker?

Reflection: How is the “all or nothing” judgment a just judgment?

7. (2:12-13) What is to motivate us in our actions?

How does 1:25 help define “the law that gives freedom”?

What is the quid pro quo of 2:13?

What action on our part will “triumph” over God’s judgment?

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**Memory Verse:** James 2:8-9

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 VerseMinder go to <http://soundliving.org/verseminder.shtml>

