

## James 2:1-13

### *The Royal Law of Loving Others*

When we think about the attributes of God, we often think of God's holiness, power and love. One attribute we often forget is that God is absolutely impartial. That is, He shows favoritism to no one. God treats each person equally fair. Let's see why being impartial is important for us as well.

- > Summarize the main point from verses 1-4? Showing favoritism (favoring rich over poor in this example) is wrong/evil.
- > What is the royal law according to verse 8? The royal law is God's command stating "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
- > What do verses 9-10 say about the seriousness of showing favoritism? It points out that showing favoritism (in and of itself) makes a person guilty of breaking the whole law. Just one sin=guilt.
- > What does verse 13 say about the consequences of how we treat others? Mercy will not be shown to us if we are not willing to show mercy to others.

### **Application**

We are often quick to make judgments concerning other people based on their appearance, clothing, personality, etc. This gives evidence of our sinful pride. If you find yourself looking down on someone, confess your sin and focus on the principles learned today:

- Recognize the love God has for that person.
- Love them as you would want others to love you.
- Remember that you will answer to God for how you treat them.

We must love people just as God loves them. In this there are no exceptions. If we want to demonstrate Christ-like faith, we must be willing to show love and mercy to all people!

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