



# James 2:1-13

Main Point: Don't show favoritism (verse 1)

Example: Rich & Poor (verses 2-7)

Alternative: The Royal Law (verses 8-13)

## Main Point

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

James 2:1 (NIV)

## Example: Rich & Poor

<sup>2</sup> Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old 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,"

James 2:2-3 (NIV)

## Example: Rich & Poor

<sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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 dishonored the poor.

James 2:4-6a (NIV)

## Example: Rich & 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 blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

James 2:6b-7 (NIV)

## Alternative: The Royal Law

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. <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, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder."

James 2:8-11a (NIV)

## Alternative: The Royal Law

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.

James 2:11b-13 (NIV)



<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, do not hold the faith of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ together with προσωπολημψιας (*prosōpolēmpsiais*).

James 2:1 (Original Translation)

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, do not hold the faith of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ together with **face-lifting**.

James 2:1 (Original Translation)

<sup>15</sup> Do not pervert justice; do not **lift up the face of** the poor, nor **honor the face of** the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

Leviticus 19:15 (Original Translation)

<sup>15</sup> Do not pervert justice; do not **show partiality to** the poor or **favoritism to** the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

Leviticus 19:15 (NIV)

<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?

James 2:3-4 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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?

James 2:5 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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?

James 2:5 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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?

James 2:5 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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?

James 2:5 (NIV - emphasis added)



<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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?

James 2:5 (NIV - emphasis added)

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture,  
“Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing  
right... <sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to  
be judged by the law that gives freedom,

James 2:8,12 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture,  
"Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing  
right... <sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to  
be judged by the law that gives freedom,

James 2:8,12 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup> ... perfect law that gives freedom...

James 1:25b (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> ""Do not pervert justice; **do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great,** but judge your neighbor fairly. <sup>16</sup> ""Do not go about spreading slander among your people. ""Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor's life. I am the LORD. <sup>17</sup> ""Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. <sup>18</sup> ""Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but **love your neighbor as yourself.** I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:15-18 (NIV)

A comic book style illustration. In the foreground, the lower legs and feet of a character are visible, wearing white pants and red sneakers with white laces. The background is a grey, textured wall with a large, jagged hole. To the right, there are dynamic, radiating lines in shades of red and white, suggesting a powerful impact or energy. The overall style is reminiscent of classic comic book art.

LOOSE

**YOUR  
NEIGHBOR**

**Defeats FAVORITISM**

13 ... Mercy triumphs over judgment.

James 2:13b (NIV)

Be WITH

Be  
CURIOUS

Check the  
MIRROR

