

James 2

v1

“have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality of people”

- The following verses are an example but remember this is the command. Partiality can have various prejudices and can be devastatingly subtle.
- Let us be aware and careful of where our sympathies and service lie.
- We are to love, prefer, serve others regardless of their politics, theology, race, hygiene...etc

v5

“Has not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom”.

- Poor in relation to this world but rich in relation to another! Heirs of that kingdom!
- The poor are not the only ones to be chosen, but they have also been chosen... By God!! Shall we judge what God has chosen?!

v8

“If you fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, You shall love your neighbour as yourself, you do well.”

- The Royal Law. If we could truly learn to keep these two commandments, we would be far more effective for Christ's testimony!
- Love is a beautiful way. It is death to self, serving The Lord, preferring others and it all glorifies The Lord!
- JOY – Jesus first, Yourself last and Others in between. – It's not just a fun song. This IS JOY!
- I have so much to learn and to change. Lord please teach me to love.

v9

“But if you have partiality to people, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.”

- The warning is straight and clear. There is no pampering, excusing, sympathising...
- Again, remember that this “partiality” is the sin! The clothing is just an example.
- Be careful of inner fleshly judgements. Like temptations they are natural, we often aren't aware of them happening, but they are sin!

v12

“So you speak, and act, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.”

- This is a far weightier law than the ten commandments.
- We may tend to focus on the liberty. Hallelujah and praise The Lord for His liberty!! But we shall be judged by that liberty!!
- We shall be judged as those who have been set free! This is a fearful truth.
- So why then are we entangled again. (Galatians 5:1 / 2Peter 2:20)
- Do we live free?
- There are people still living in bondage, ignorant, slaves to sin... They live by the law of sin and death. They are not free... But we have been set free!

v16

“you do not give them those things which are needful to the body; what does it profit?”

- This example seems extreme, but it is not about the extremity of the situation but recognising/knowing the need.
- May we be ready to every good work (Titus 3:1,8,14)
- Oh Lord, may I learn to meet the needs. Please teach me to walk with this heart.

v17-20

“Even so faith, if it has not works, is dead, being alone.” / “the devils also believe, and tremble.” / “faith without works is dead”

- Faith is proven by response/action. Faith WILL act! Words alone are meaningless and dead.
- Faith, even a false faith, will be lived out in practice and not in word only.
- So if someone is Born Again, we expect a certain heart. It is not judgemental, it is “know them by their fruits” (Matthew 7:16-20)
- If only The Lord was as real to us as He is to the devils!! Where is our fear/reverence?!
- A New Birth, New Creature, New Creation can only become by faith in the Saviour and that New Life will cry out for His word, His presence and to praise His name! Faith in the Saviour is Life!

21-26

“Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness.” / “by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.”

- John 14:15,21,23 Love without works is dead! Love acts! Faith acts!!
- By keeping His commandments, we love Him. By action we display and demonstrate our faith/love.
- The actions, the obedience... By these The Lord will impute righteousness.
- 1 Samuel 2:30 “for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.”
- James 4:8 KJV “Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.”
- Faith = works!