

James Book Study Chapter 2: James the brother of Jesus  
Did everyone get a Booklet? If not raise your hand!!!!  
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: GROW STRONG!

**The charge against showing partiality**

1 My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality.

- What does it mean to show partiality? It means to favor some people over others or to pay special attention to a person because of his wealth, social standing, position, authority, popularity, looks, or influence.
- Note that this charge is given to believers... to brothers/christians
- Everyone who is in the church is a brother—everyone stands on an equal footing before the Lord Jesus Christ. Wealth, status, social standing, position, appearance—nothing matters except all men coming to the Lord Jesus Christ and worshipping Him.

**The picture of partiality: two unbelieving church visitors**

2 For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes,  
3 and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool,"

- Note that the two men represent the extreme ends of wealth and poverty. If partiality is not to be shown in this case, then it is never to be shown. There are to be absolutely no distinctions within the church, no distinctions of social class, standing, position, wealth, prestige, or recognition. How we view sin: abomination- homosexuality/sowing discord **Proverbs 6:16-19**

All too often we proclaim God's condemnation of adultery, homosexuality, and other obvious sins. Yet, these sins are not on the list above. Many churches discipline people in their congregations who live in adultery, and well they should. But what do churches do with people who commit the sins on this list: lying, slander, causing division in the church...? Often, although unknowingly, they appoint them to deacon boards, various committees, and teaching Sunday school classes. And, yet, these are the sins that do the greatest damage to the cause of Christ and to the body of Christ.

### **The wrong of partiality: 5 things wrong with showing partiality**

4 have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts?

7 Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

1 judges: It makes one as God; it says who can worship God and who cannot, who is acceptable to God and who is not. Only God Himself can determine who He will accept and not accept.

2 evil thoughts: Because we focus on the stuff, the toys, what maybe we can get instead of the real prize: the person & their soul People matter

3 discriminates: Showing partiality discriminates against the poor and lowly, a people who are loved by God

4 dishonors: Just think of the hurt and pain within the heart of the person who is publicly discriminated against—the pain and hurt when he sees us shun, bypass, ignore sows a seed of Rejection

5 over looks the noble name: again self sufficiency is the focus instead of Jesus

### **The warning against partiality**

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well;

9 but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

- Showing partiality is sin; it violates the royal law of love
- The law go God is to Love: It's what leads to eternal life

### **The motivations against partiality**

12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.  
13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy.  
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

- We shall face the judgment of God (James 2:12). Therefore, we should speak and act like people who will stand before God and give account for what we have done.
- We should do or show love and kindness to all people.

### **Faith & Works**

14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?     works are our actions that live out what we believe: salt & sugar/oil & gas

- Millions profess faith in Christ and belong to the church, yet they do not live for Christ. They live for the world and self. They have been baptized, joined the church and attend worship services, but they do what they want when they want. They just go on and live like everyone else in the world. The only difference between their lives and unbelievers is that they sometimes get up on Sunday mornings and attend church. There is little if any difference between their behavior and speech during the week.
- Does our lives reflect Jesus, Holiness, is this Book the blueprint for our lives

### **True Faith or Dead Faith**

15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,  
16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?  
17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

- A person can talk about believing in Jesus Christ until he is blue in the face, but if he is not reaching out and helping the destitute of the world just like Jesus did, his faith is dead
- Dead faith has words but no action, empty
- True faith is an operative faith, a faith that really works.

### **Dead belief and a living Belief**

18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

- There is a dead belief and a living belief, a belief that does not lead to salvation and a belief that does lead to salvation.
- Consider the demons or evil spirits. They believe in God; they even know that God exists. They even believe in the deity of Christ. On one occasion they cried out to Jesus, "What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God?" (Matthew 8:29). But the demons are not saved. Their belief has not affected their lives and behavior at all.
- true faith is a living faith, a faith that stirs a person to live for Christ—to live a righteous and pure life and to give all he is and has to reach a lost and desperate world for Christ.
- living a separate from the world, a life that is pure before the Lord, believe that Jesus died for you forgiving your sins, God raised Him from the dead providing eternal life

### **The man who proved his faith by works**

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?

23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God.

24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

### **The woman who proved her faith by works**

25 Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

The Key and conclusion: Have faith that is lived out through your works and know the Lord don't have a dead belief: experience Jesus- we saw it Sunday evening- most if not all of those girls would have told you that they believed in Jesus, but at least 2 when they let knew Him as Savior!

Romans 10:9-10 (NKJV)

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Faith & Action

A body without the spirit or breath is dead. It does not move, act, live, or work. It is empty, totally useless and worthless. It is a dead body. So it is with faith: faith without works is dead. It does not move, act, live, or work. Faith without works is empty, totally useless and worthless. It does not live for Christ, does not follow Him in righteousness or purity nor work for Him in reaching people