

GREAT OAKS

Breakfast & BIBLE CLASS

(with 500 of your favorite people)

September 10th

Breakfast at 8am

Bible class starts at 9am

Christian Faith, Status, and Partiality



James 1:27

²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**All verses from 1995 New American Standard*

The Temptation
to Partiality – v. 1-4



James 2:1-4

¹ My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of personal favoritism*.

Partiality – (prosopoleipsia) -

the fault of one who has respect to the outward circumstances of men and not to their intrinsic merits, and so prefers, as the more worthy, one who is rich, high-born, or powerful, to another who is destitute of such gifts.



The Temptation to Partiality – v. 1-4

- Sadly, people often give greater honor to those who have status.

James 2:1-4

² For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

James 2:1-4

³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,”

⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

James 2:1-4

³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,”

⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

Romans 12:16

¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

Partiality is Unlike God
– v. 5-7



1 Samuel 16:7

⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

Acts 10:34-35

³⁴ Opening his mouth, Peter said:

“I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality,

³⁵ but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

Colossians 3:25

²⁵ For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

James 2:5-7

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

James 2:5-7

⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?

⁷ Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

Partiality is Unlike God

– v. 5-7

- God's heart has always had a special place for the poor.

Partiality is Against God's
Law – v. 8-13



James 2:8-11

⁸ If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,” you are doing well.

James 2:8-11

⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin *and* are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.

James 2:8-11

11 For He who said, “DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY,” also said, “DO NOT COMMIT MURDER.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

John 19:11

¹¹ Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.”

Matthew 23:23

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

Partiality is Against God's Law – v. 8-13

- Though some sins are “greater,” any sin makes us guilty before God.

James 2:12-13

¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty.

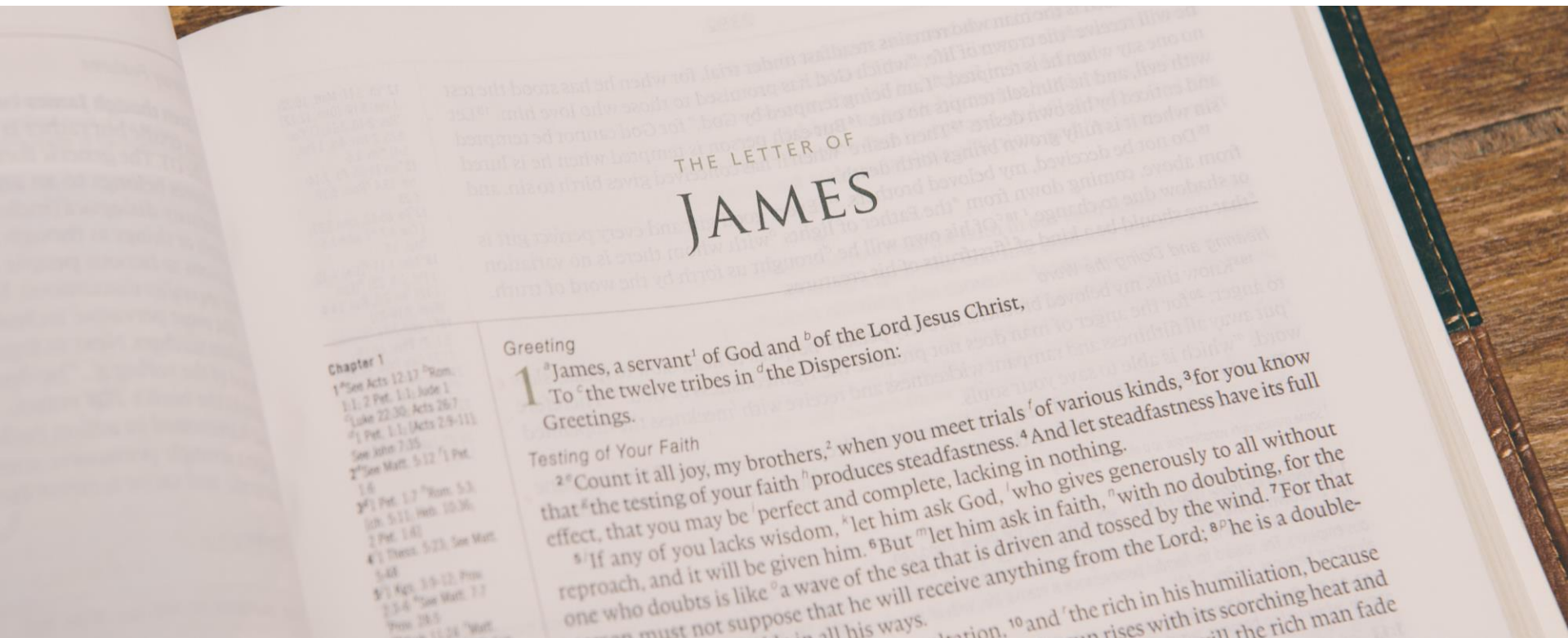
¹³ For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

Partiality is Against God's Law – v. 8-13

- One definition of mercy:
kindness expressed towards
someone in need.

¹ My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of* personal favoritism.

-James 2:1



**We will interact with many
different types of people.**

**Let's treat them so that
people see Jesus in us...**

What Must I Do To Be Saved?



James 5:16

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.