

VII. Outline of James 2

A. Duty of impartiality in the treatment of others 2:1-13.

1. Command not to be partial vs. 1
2. Illustration of how the Jewish Christians showed partiality to the rich vss. 2-4
3. Reasons why the Jewish Christians shouldn't show partiality to the rich vss. 5-13
 - a. Because God chose those who were saved mainly from among the poor. Thus respect was to be shown to the poor as well as to the rich. vss 5, 6a
 - b. Because the rich had oppressed the Jewish Christians and had persecuted them by dragging them into court and thus had shown that they were ~~w~~orthy of no special regard vs. 6b.
 - c. Because the rich blasphemed the worthy name of Christ by which the Jewish Christians were called and thus again showed that they were worthy of no special regard. vs. 7.
 - d. Because it is a violation of the law of love vss. 8-13.

B. Discussion of the faith that saves vss. 14-26

1. Definition of the faith that saves vs. 14. It is faith that produces good works.
2. Illustration of the definition of the faith that saves vss. 15-16

Just as the wish that a brother or sister who is naked and hungry be clothed and fed is genuine only if the person who expresses the wish actually clothes and feeds the brother or sister who is naked and hungry, so faith is genuine only if it produces good works.

3. An objection to the definition of the faith that saves vss 18-20.
 - a. Statement of the objection vs. 18. Some manifest their religion by faith without works while others manifest their religion by their works but both must have the same religion -it is just manifested in different ways. vs. 18a.
 - b. Answers ~~for~~^{to} the objection 18b,19

- (1) Those who have ~~f~~^ffaith without good works don't have the faith that saves because the faith that saves always produces good works. The faith that saves and good works are inseparable. You can't have one without the other. Therefore, those who have faith without good works don't have the faith that saves. On the other hand, those who have the faith that saves produce good works, and those good works prove they have the faith that saves. vs. 18b