

Have The Right Attitude While Doing The Work (Part Three)

September 19, 2021

Text: James 2

Big Focus: Your Attitude Toward People

1. Be Fair and Avoid Favoritism

• James 2:1–13 (NIV): 2 My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show **favoritism**.

2. Be Fair to the Disadvantaged (You need the right view of people)

• 2 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. 3 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," 4 have you not **discriminated** among yourselves and become judges with **evil thoughts**?

3. Be Fair Like God (God cares for the poor)

• 5 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? 6 But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

4. Be Fair When You Apply Scripture (Love your neighbor as yourself)

- 8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. 9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.
- 11 For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.
- 12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Three concluding questions:

- 1. Are you fair to those around you?
- 2. Are you fair in your judgements?
- 3. Are you fair when you speak to people?

Next Time:

Be Careful What You Say

