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Favoritism is giving unfair

UNIT 2: The Traits of Real Faith

UNIT 2 MEMORY VERSE: James 1:25

LESSON 4: Real Faith Removes Favoritism
James 2:1-13

NEXT LESSON: Real Faith Results in Works

TO REMOVE FAVORITISM (2:1)

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INTRODUCTION

Discrimination it is one of the great social tensions of our times. Such unkind conduct may not be too surprising in a world where selfishness and the protection of one's own interests are the guiding principles. However, a higher standard is expected from those who profess the faith in Christ. Our Christian creed must be followed by Christian conduct.

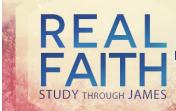
group at the of another. This is something we have all been guilty of at one time or another. It is human nature to show favoritism but that does not make it right. Christians must not accept or reject persons on the basis of partiality, being impressed by position, wealth, looks, race, or any other superficial distinction.			
<u>Application</u> : Too many believers draw a quick conclusion about people based on merely external first impressions. Faith in Christ and partiality are incompatible. Faith and favoritism are complete opposites.			
THE	OF FAVORITISM (2:2-4)		
A hypothetical case study of two men who enter a place of worship as guests is given. While hypothetically stated, the illustration suggests a situation that the readers would immediately recognize and strike their conscience.			
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A. TheApplication: Often pedefine themselves by more. Our inclination	man ople attach their self-worth to their net-worth. They their things and spend their lives trying to accumulate is to gather all the material things we can in order to feel however, this may prevent us from finding security and		

<u>Application</u>: May we never forget that every man is someone for whom Jesus died. Never judge a jewel because it comes in a plain box. Every man's soul is invaluable and of inestimable worth. Jesus reminded His audience that a man's soul is worth more than the whole world (Matt. 16:26).

	THE	AGAINST FAVORITISM (2:5-11)	
Jam	nes gives three argum	ents against favoritism, two through rhetorical	
que	estions, and a third th	rough dogmatic declaration.	
A.	The	argument (2:5)	
В.	The	argument (2:6-7)	
_	The	247 mm ant (249 10)	
C.	ine	argument (2:8-10)	
bas imp	is of some ultimate go portance of this "royal I, vice versa, if you bre	avoritism is not to be taken lightly nor excused on the bood that might result. Given the fundamental law", to break this one law is like breaking all of them; eak any of the others, you've broken this one.	
	THE	TO AVOID FAVORITISM (2:8-13)	
So how do we defeat discrimination? How does faith overcome favoritism? James gives us some practical application.			
A.	Let	be your law (2:8)	
В.	Let	_ be your standard (2:12)	
C.	Let	_ be your motive (2:13)	

CONCLUSION

One of the traits of real faith is that it treats others without partiality. This passage allows no wiggle room for ambiguity – favoritism is sin. It is sin because it is based on prejudice, judging others by false standards. Prejudice and favoritism flourish when we stop looking at people the way God looks at them. This also means that we have stopped seeing ourselves as God sees us. We need to ask God to help us identify our prejudices and recognize situations in which we tend to show favoritism. Then we need to actively resist these tendencies, asking others to keep us accountable. Let love be your law, Scripture be your standard, and mercy be your motive. Real faith removes partiality.



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