

The “BIG IDEA” of James

- A Faith that Works

Faith Without Works is Dead (2:17)

- Doing and Living His Truth

Be doers and not hearers only (Jas.1:22)

- An active Impacting Faith

Pure Religion in God’s Eyes (James 1:27)

- Being like God, as His Children

Imitators of God (Matt.5:43-48; Eph.5:1)

- **Not to Gain Salvation, but as Living Proof of It**
- **Not to Earn the Righteousness of God, but as Practical Evidence of It**

Last Time: Be “Doers” of God’s Word

Don’t just hear the Word and forget, but let God transform you through It (Jas.1:25)

Examples:

- 1. In how you talk (v.26)**
- 2. In how you care for others (v.27)**
- 3. In how you avoid the unholy influence of the world (v.27)**

Today: As “Doers” of God’s Word

Don’t Practice your Faith-Care for Others with Favoritism (Jas.2:1)

- 1. In how you talk (v.26)**
- 2. In how you care for others (v.27)**
- 3. In how you avoid the unholy influence of the world (v.27)**

“The Command” Jas. 2:1

Don't “Hold” (have, possess, live) your faith showing partiality-favoritism

1. Made to “Brethren” (v.1)
 - Matt,23:8f
 - Gal.3:26-28
 - God is no Respector of Persons Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11
2. Concern that we not be as World (Mtt.23, Pharisees; Jude 16)
3. It's inconsistent who God is, and Faith in Christ (Mtt.11:28f, 22:37-40; Gal.5:22)

“The Principle” Jas. 2:1

Live out God’s Royal Law (2:8)

1. Fulfilling the Law-Command of Life in Christ
 - Not by legalism of the Letter of Law
 - Rather by living in fulness of the Spirit (Rom.8:4)
2. The letter of the Law is like a mirror, revealing our flaws; but can never bring transformed life change (Jas.1:23-25; 2Cor.3:17-18; Gal.3:1-3)
3. It’s the undergirding of our Liberty in Christ (2:12; 1Cor.8-10)

“Lord’s New Law of Love”

- Mark 12:29-31
- John 14:15, 21, 15:12-14, 17
- Galatians 5:14
- Matthew 5:43-48

“The Example” Jas. 2:2-4

1. Two individuals enter the gathering, and receive vastly different receptions
2. Based solely on Outward appearance (1Sam.16:7)