

IMPARTIAL FAITH

James 2:1-13

Read (v.1-4)

partiality implies - respecter of persons.

“The fault of one when called on to give judgement has respect of the outward circumstances of man and not to their intrinsic merits, and so prefers, as the more worthy, one who is rich, high born, or powerful, to another who does not have these qualities.”

“...judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

(Acts 10:34b-35) “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.”

(Galatians 3:28-29) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

(2 Corinthians 5:21) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Evil – *poneros* – full of labor, pressed, harassed by labor; causing pain and trouble; wicked, bad.

thoughts – *dialogismos* – dialogue: literally, inward reasoning.

(Psalm 19:14) Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

(Ephesians 4:3) “...endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

(Philippians 4:8) Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things.

(1 Peter 4:8-9) And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins." Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

(v.5-11)

(1 Corinthians 4:4-5) For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

Judge – *anakrino* – investigate, scrutinize, defects of any person or thing.

1 Corinthians 5

“Partiality can become “hatred,” a license to “murder.”

(1 John 3:15) Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

APPLICATION: (v.12, 13)

Mercy enables us to overcome partiality. Extend to others the same “mercy” you receive every morning. (Lamentations 3:23).

CONCLUSION: Hold your faith “without” partiality because that is how God “holds you,” in Christ!

(1 John 4:10-11) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.