

1

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

¹ My brothers and sisters, do not show favoritism as you hold on to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

² For if someone comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and a poor person dressed in filthy clothes also comes in,

2

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

³ if you look with favor on the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here in a good place," and yet you say to the poor person, "Stand over there," or "Sit here on the floor by my footstool,"

3

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

⁴ haven't you made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?



4

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Didn't God choose the poor in this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?



5

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

⁶ Yet you have dishonored the poor. Don't the rich oppress you and drag you into court?
⁷ Don't they blaspheme the good name that was invoked over you?



6

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

⁸ Indeed, if you fulfill the royal law prescribed in the Scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well.

⁹ If, however, you show favoritism, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

7

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the entire law, and yet stumbles at one point, is guilty of breaking it all.

¹¹ For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. So if you do not commit adultery, but you murder, you are a lawbreaker.

8

James 2:1-13 (CSB)

¹² Speak and act as those who are to be judged by the law of freedom.

¹³ For judgment is without mercy to the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

9

IFS (Institute for Family Studies)

- 1) Close to half of Americans who grew up with siblings believe their parents had a favorite child.
- 2) Only 30% of them say they feel close to their siblings or parents.
- 3) Only 55% of adults who saw themselves as the favorite child growing up are satisfied with their current relationship with their parents.



10

Favoritism has a drastically negative impact on the unity of a family.



11

James 1:27 (CSB)

Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself **unstained from the world.**



12

James 2:1 (CSB)

My *brothers and sisters*, do not show *favoritism*...



13

1) Favoritism is a way in which the church can slide into worldliness.



14

“Showing favoritism is ingrained in us. It’s so natural for us to want to attract those who will most benefit us.”

~ David Platt



15

Favoritism literally translates as "receive according to the face."



16

1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn't see things the way you see them.

People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.



17

James 2:1 (CSB)

My brothers and sisters, do not show ***favoritism*** as you hold on to the faith in our ***glorious Lord Jesus Christ***.



18

James 2:2-4 (CSB)

² For if someone comes into your **meeting** wearing a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and a poor person dressed in filthy clothes also comes in,



19

James 2:2-4 (CSB)

³ if you look with favor on the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here in a good place," and yet you say to the poor person, "Stand over there," or "Sit here on the floor by my footstool,"



20

James 2:2-4 (CSB)

⁴ haven't you made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?



21

2) Favoritism and prejudice are two sides of the same coin.



22

Acts 17:26 (CSB)

From **one man** he has made **every nationality** to live over the whole earth and has determined their appointed times and the boundaries of where they live.



23

Romans 10:11-13 (CSB)

¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes on him will **not be put to shame,**"

¹² since **there is no distinction between Jew and Greek,** because the same Lord of all richly blesses all who call on him.



24

Romans 10:11-13 (CSB)

¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”



25

James 2:1 (CSB)

My brothers and sisters, do not show **favoritism** as you hold on to the faith in our **glorious Lord Jesus Christ**.



26

3) Favoritism distracts us from the glory of Christ.



27

Psalm 23:1 (CSB)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want (I lack nothing).



28

We can either honor the wealthy because they are rich in money, or honor Christ who is rich in glory.



29

James 2:5 (CSB)

Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Didn't **God choose the poor** in this world to be **rich in faith** and heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?



30

James 1:9-12 (CSB)

⁹ Let the brother of humble circumstances boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰ but let the rich boast in his humiliation because he will pass away like a flower of the field.



31

James 1:9-12 (CSB)

¹¹ For the sun rises and, together with the scorching wind, dries up the grass; its flower falls off, and its beautiful appearance perishes. In the same way, the rich person will wither away while pursuing his activities.



32

James 1:9-12 (CSB)

¹² **Blessed** is the one who **endures trials**, because when he has stood the test he will receive the **crown of life** that God has promised to those who love him.



33

4) Financial hardships can lead to a spiritual harvest.



34

Galatians 2:6-10 (CSB)

⁶ Now from those recognized as important (what they once were makes no difference to me; **God does not show favoritism**)—they added nothing to me.



35

Galatians 2:6-10 (CSB)

⁷ On the contrary, they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter was for the circumcised,
⁸ since the one at work in **Peter** for an apostleship to the circumcised was also at work in me for the Gentiles.



36

Galatians 2:6-10 (CSB)

⁹ When **James, Cephas, and John**—those recognized as **pillars**—acknowledged the grace that had been given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to me and Barnabas, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

37

Galatians 2:6-10 (CSB)

¹⁰ They asked only that we would **remember the poor**, which I had made every effort to do.

38

James 2:8-9 (CSB)

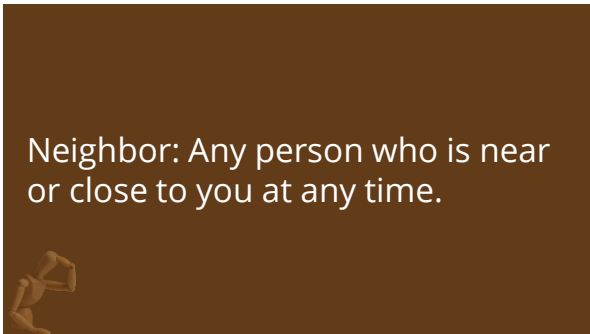
⁸ Indeed, if you fulfill the royal law prescribed in the Scripture, Love your **neighbor** as yourself, you are doing well.

⁹ If, however, you show **favoritism, you commit sin** and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

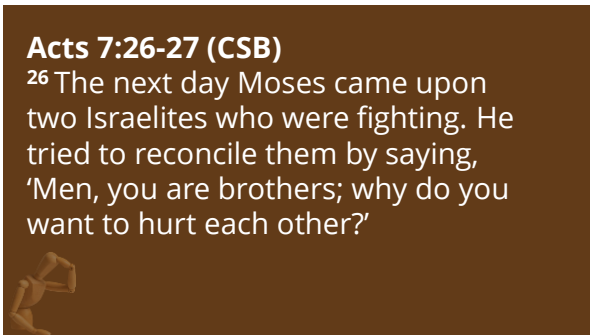
39



40



41



42

Acts 7:26-27 (CSB)

²⁷ "But the man who was mistreating the **other** pushed Moses aside and said, 'Who made you ruler and judge over us?'"



43

Galatians 3:28 (CSB)

There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are **all one in Christ Jesus**.



44

"Favoritism often causes us to forget two crucial things: you are fearfully and wonderfully made with unique giftings, and Jesus is making every believer a VIP of the whole universe."

~ John Peritt



45
