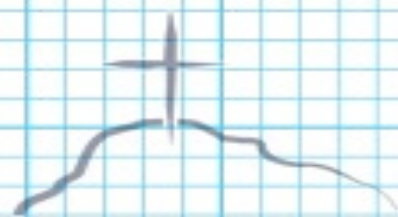


JAMES

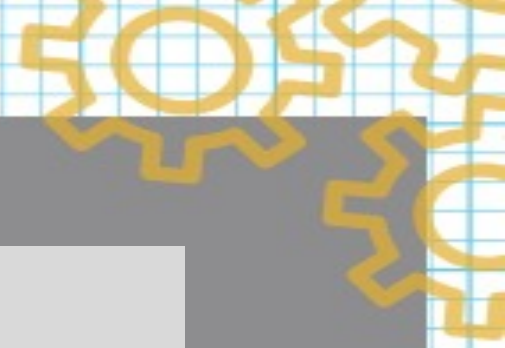
“Faith That Works”

gracebiblecolumbia.org



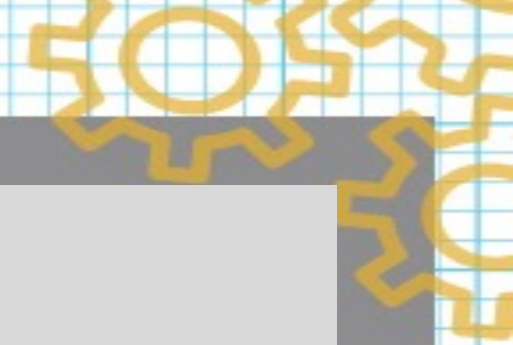
JAMES

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Royal Law & Royal Love

James 2:1-13

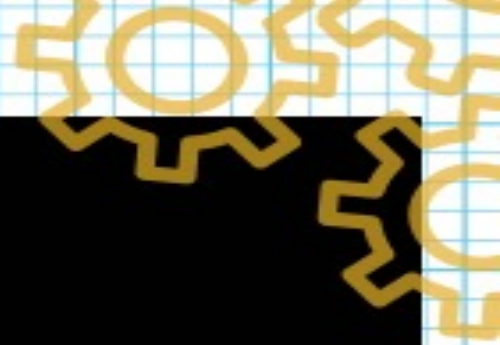


“The Gospel is good news of mercy to the undeserving. The symbol of the religion of Jesus is the cross, not the scales.”

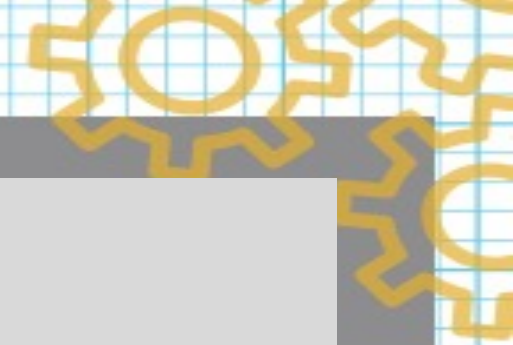
John Stott

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



2:1 My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.

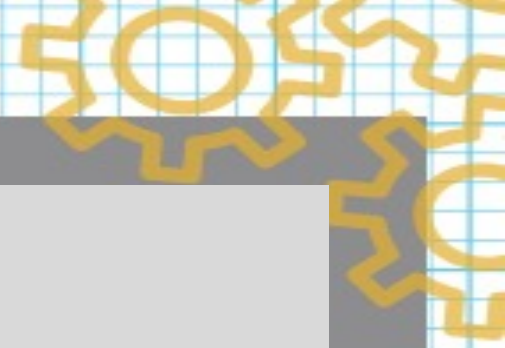


Faith is Impartial 1

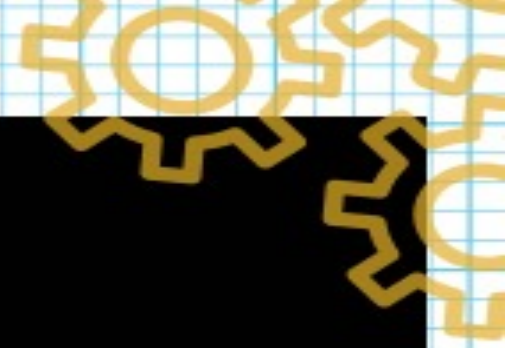
- Do not link faith and favoritism!
- Deut 10:17, Acts 10:34
- Unconditional, Unilateral, Sacrificial
- 'partiality' = 'taken by the face'
- 'glorious' because He is not taken by 'face'

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



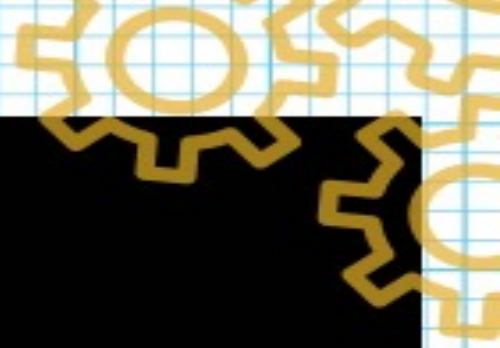
*“The value of others is God-based
NOT good-based.”*



2 For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

JAMES

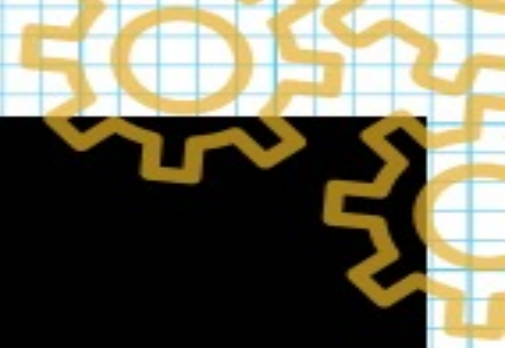
“Faith That Works”



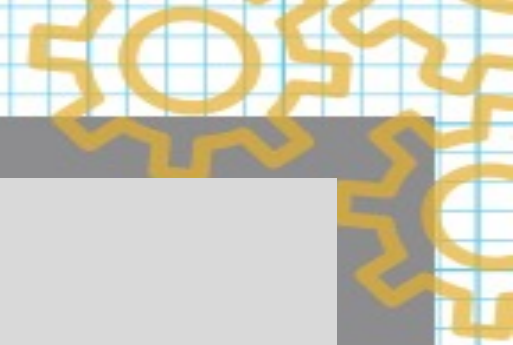
3 and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,”

JAMES

“Faith That Works”

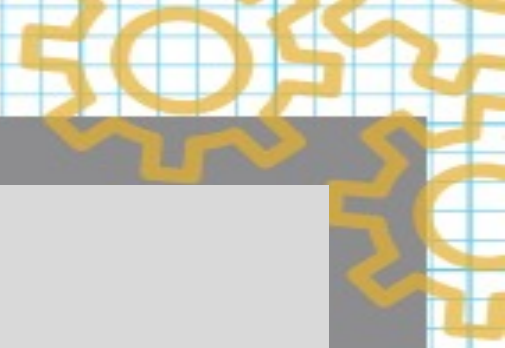


4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?



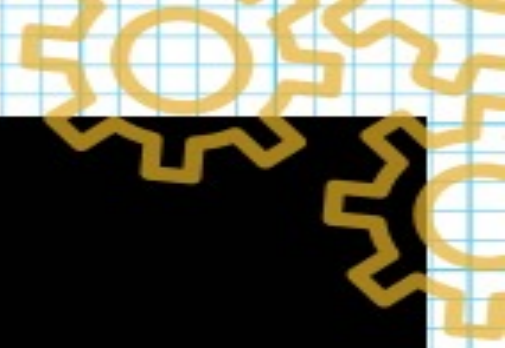
Worship is Impartial 2-4

- 'assembly' – synagogue = going together
- 'fine' – bright and glamorous
- 'poor' – cowering, crouching
- Preferred vs Poor
- 1 Sam 16:7 – 'LORD looks on the heart' - Saul



*“Justice is for those who deserve it;
mercy is for those who don't.”*

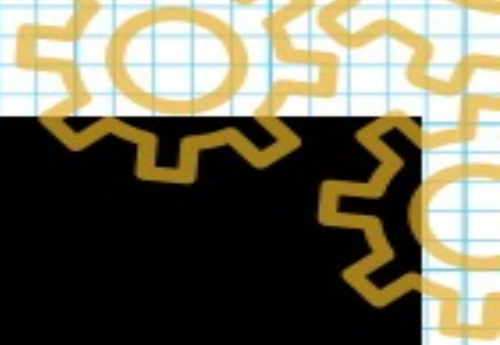
Woodrow Kroll



5 Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

JAMES

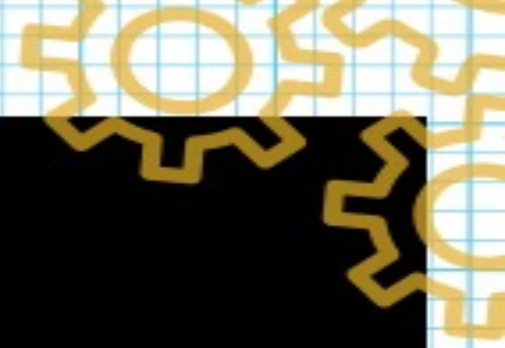
“Faith That Works”



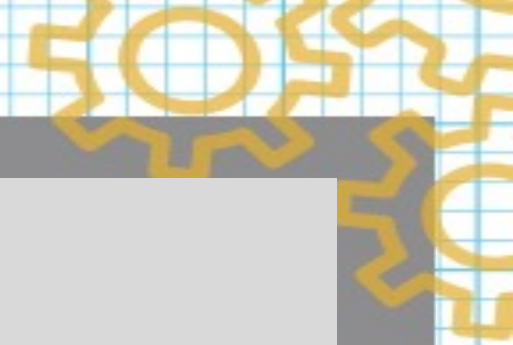
6 But you have dishonored the poor man.
Is it not the rich who oppress you and
personally drag you into court?

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



7 Do they not blaspheme the fair name
by which you have been called?



God is Impartial 5-7

- God came to the poor – shepherds
- God met with the poor – ‘sinners & publicans’
- God loved the poor – ‘Jerusalem, Jerusalem’
- God taught the poor – ‘blessed are the poor...’
- God defended the poor – ‘eye of a needle...’

JAMES

“Faith That Works”

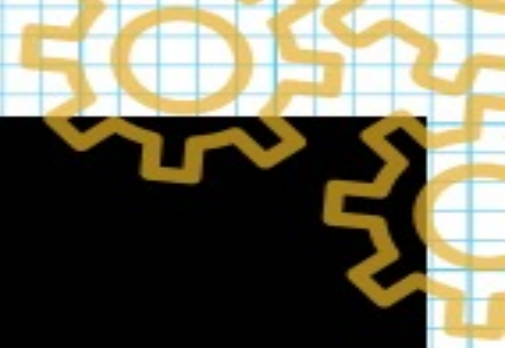


*“When a Christian shows mercy,
he experiences liberation.”*

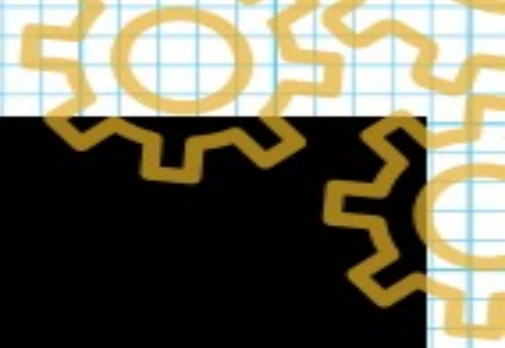
Warren Wiersbe

JAMES

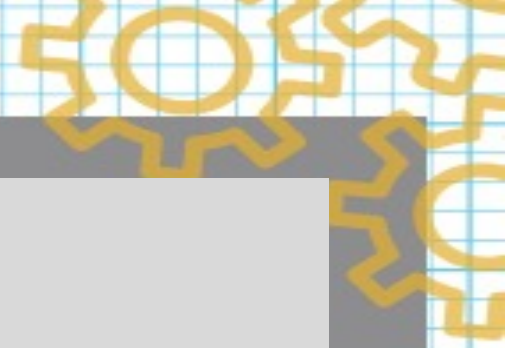
“Faith That Works”



8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,” you are doing well.



9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.



Royal Law 8,9

- Jesus – Matt 22:36-40 – 2 GREATS!
- Love your neighbor – Lev 19:18
- Royal Law – modeled by the KING
- Legal or Regal? Justice or Justified?

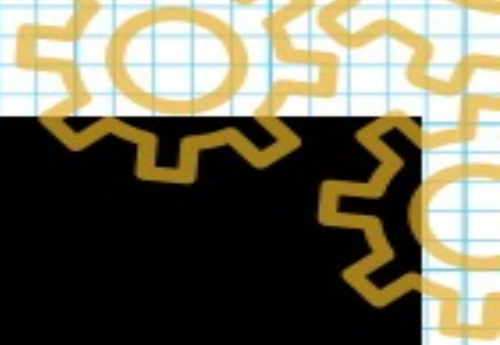


*“Remember, you will never be asked
to forgive someone else more than
God has forgiven you.”*

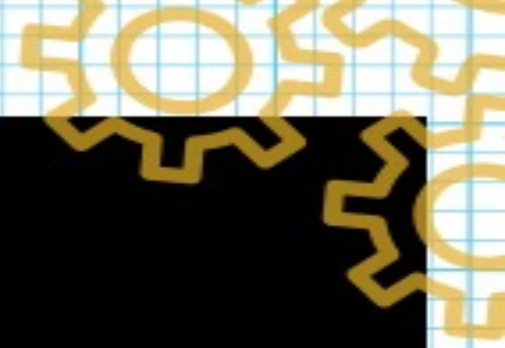
Rick Warren

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



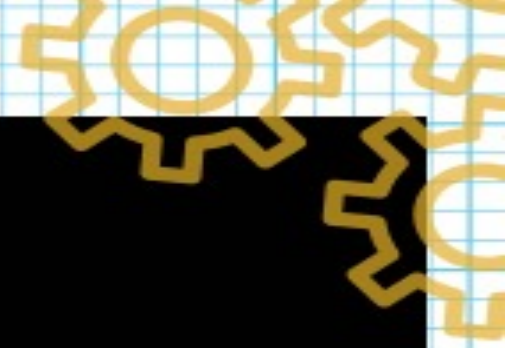
10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.



11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

JAMES

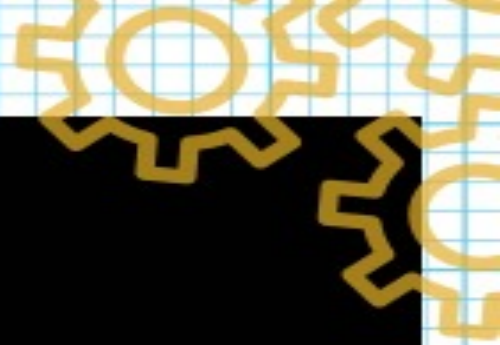
“Faith That Works”



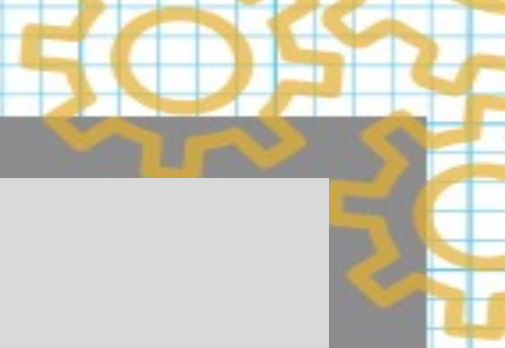
12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.

JAMES

“Faith That Works”

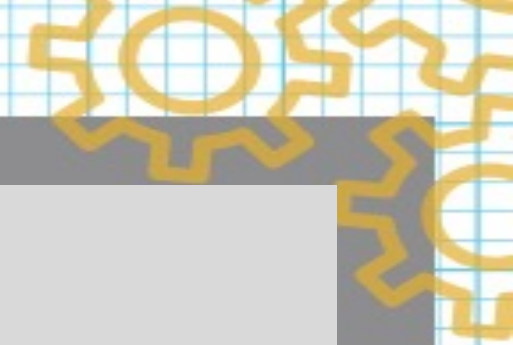


13 For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.



Royal Love 10-13

- Selective obedience is deceptive!
- Apathy makes many excuses!
- We are 'judged by the law of liberty'
- Mercy is the patience of love!

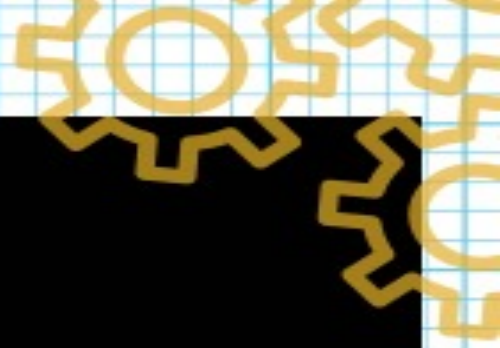


*“God's mercy with a sinner is only equaled
and perhaps outmatched by His patience
with the saints, with you and me.”*

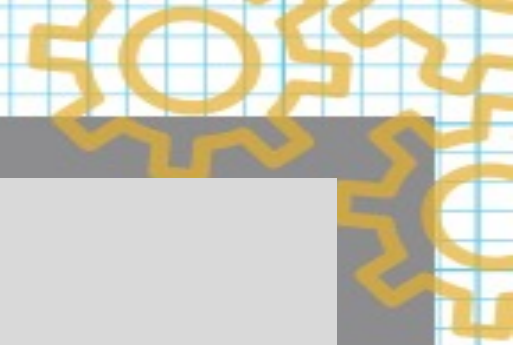
Alan Redpath

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



Rom 2:4 Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?



Royal Law & Royal Love

- Faith & Favoritism do NOT go together
- How do we seek wealth?
- How do we shun poverty?
- How should we live by Royal Law – Royal Love
- Celebrate God's Love by His Mercy!

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



***You cannot demand mercy –
you can only beg it or give it!***