

Text: James 2:1-13

Topics: Favoritism, Love, the Poor, the Rich

Series: Genuine Faith on the Anvil of Life.

Monroe Bible Church

February 20, 2022

Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl

---

## Favoritism in the Church

Showing favoritism is sinful conduct and not compatible with the Christian faith.

### I. God's Prerogative (1-4)

Showing favoritism is the result of defective thinking and assuming the role of a judge.

### II. God's People (5-7)

Showing favoritism is dishonoring the poor, and honoring the rich who often harm them.

### III. God's Precept (8-13)

Showing favoritism defies the command to love your neighbor.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group for even more benefit.*

1. Can you think of an example of a time you felt you were a victim of favoritism? Explain.

2. Read James 2:1-4. What is James warning his readers against doing? What words are used in this passage to describe it?

What reasons does he give for not doing it?

James gives an example of it in the early church. Give an example of what it might look like in the modern church?

What kind of person do you tend to be uncomfortable welcoming?

3. Read James 2:5-7. What does James remind readers about God? What does he remind them about the rich?

What wrong does he point out in verse 6?

How might a church be disrespecting the poor? How might the church respect the poor?

4. Read James 2:8-11. What is the "royal law"?

What does James call partiality (v. 9) and the person who does it (v. 9, 11)?

5. From James 2:12-13, explain the "law of liberty."

What does "mercy triumphs over judgment" mean?

How should knowing Christ help us avoid partiality, grow in mercy, and obey the royal law and the law of liberty?