

JAMES 2:1-4

March 11, 2007

What James writes in 2:1-13 **flows out of** 1:26-27.

Favoritism

- making decisions about people no the basis of **external** factors alone
- preferring a person because of something you are **enamored** by

True & authentic faith in Jesus Christ is absolutely **incompatible** with an attitude of favoritism.

“glorious Lord Jesus Christ”

As true believers we should never be **overawed** or bedazzled by passing, temporary, worldly glory because our faith is in someone whose glory far **outshines** anyone or anything here on this earth.

Favoritism isn't a “what you **do**” problem, it is a “**why** you do it” problem.

“discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts.”

“discriminated” – same word as 1:6 – professing commitment to **Christ** but actually committed to the world's values

When you show favoritism, you are setting yourself up in God's place as **judge**.

When you respond to people on the basis of what they can **do for** you, you are being motivated by the basest of the world's values: **selfishness**.

God is concerned about our **attitudes**. Your faith should affect everything about you, including how you treat people who are **different** than you.

We've got to stop looking at people in terms of “What can I get from them?” and start asking:

“How does **Christ** want me to view them?”

“How can I show them the **love** of my Jesus?”