

THE EVIL OF FAVORITISM — Ja.2:1-13

THE PRINCIPLE (2:1)

- Saying I hold faith of Jesus, and at the same time, have respect for persons is contradictory.
- Favoritism is inconsistent with the Christian faith which brings everyone to the same level.
- There is real equality in the body of Christ, and there must be equal treatment as well.

THE EXAMPLE (2:2-4)

- The rich who oppress (gold-fingered man, fine clothing); The poor who were oppressed.
- Showing favoritism means you become judges with evil motives. Judgment divides.
- Shows an arbitrary judgment based on a man's appearance.
- Okay to say sit on this fine seat, if that was said to both.



THE ISSUE, INCONSISTENCY (2:5-10)

- 1. It treats the rich better than the poor (God “chooses” & populates His kingdom). If God has chosen the poor, how can you choose against them? If you look down on the poor, how unlike God you are!
- 2. Why would you want to exalt the rich since they drag you to court? Plus they denounce (blaspheme) the name of your Lord Jesus.

THE VIOLATION (2:11)

- In what sense is this a violation of God's love? It is sin.
- How many laws do you have to break to be a lawbreaker? One. The unity of God's law is that it all hangs together.
- What you are doing is defying the authority of God. You are saying, “I will not love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength in that area. You have a heart of rebellion.

THE APPEAL (2:12-13)

- There is no mercy in the law, and there is no grace in the law.
- Show me a person who shows no mercy, and I'll show you a person who will have no mercy in judgment. Why? Because they are not redeemed!