
FAITH
JAMES 2:18 • 2013
LIVE IT OUT
THE BOOK OF JAMES
HILLVIEW BIBLE CHAPEL 2013

By Rejecting Partiality

James 2:1-9

Outline

1:1 – Introduction to book

1:2-12 – When You Encounter Trials

1:13-18 – In Facing Temptation

1:19-27 – By Obeying God's Word

2:1-9 – By Rejecting Partiality

- Partiality toward God's Word
- Partiality toward people

Verse

- Partiality toward God's word
- Malachi 2:9 "So I also have made you despised and abased before all the people, just as you are not keeping My ways but are showing partiality in the instruction."
- Treating Acts 2:38,42 like a menu

Verses

2:1 My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of* personal favoritism. 2:2 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 2:3 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," 2:4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil motives?

Verses

2:5 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? 2:6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Is
it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag
you into court? 2:7 Do they not blaspheme the fair
name by which you have been called? 2:8 If,
however, you are fulfilling the royal law according
to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well. 2:9
But if you show partiality, you are committing sin
and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Verses

- Exhortation—no partiality (v. 1)
- Example—rich and poor men (vv.2-3)
- Evaluation—wrong distinctions (vv. 4-7)
- Judgment—breaking the 2nd (vv. 8-9)

Definition

- Denotation
  - personal favoritism (James 2:1), G4392: respect of persons
  - show partiality (James 2:9), G4380: favor an individual

Definition

- Denotation
- Negation
  - No favor
  - No closeness
  - No distinctions
  - No respect of roles

Definition

- Denotation
- Negation
- Characteristic
  - Fairness (Components of a context)
  - Justice (Judgment of or between people)

Definition

Partiality does not nullify favor, closeness, distinctions, or respect of roles; but it occurs when a person unduly favors another or others in a context of fairness or when a person shows partiality for another or others instead of doing justice.

Representation

- James 2:1-9
  - Partiality toward the rich in Christ (vv. 2-3)
  - Impartial toward all in Christ (v. 4)

Representation

- Acts 10:25-35
  - God's impartiality with Jew and Gentile (vv. 34-35)
- Galatians 2:6-14
  - Peter's partiality with Jews (vv. 11-13)
  - Barnabas's partiality with Peter (v. 13)
  - Paul's impartiality of Peter (v. 14)

Relation

Class and Type

Relation

Class and Type—Partiality / Favoritism

- Divisive Action
- Unjust Judgment

Relation

Class and Type—Partiality / Favoritism

- Divisive Action
- When you are in a setting that is level, equal, or fair, you favor some one or kind, which may result in division instead of keeping the unity.
- Peter in Galatians
- Unjust Judgment
- When you judge between parties, you favor one over another instead of doing justice.
- Barnabas in Galatians

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

- Partiality / Favoritism

Effect

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

- Partiality / Favoritism

Effect

- Unnecessary strain
- 1 Corinthians 1:12 “Now, I mean this: that each one of you is saying, ‘I am of Paul’ and ‘I of Apollos’ and ‘I of Cephas’ and ‘I of Christ.’”

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

- Partiality / Favoritism

Effect

•Divisions

•1 Corinthians 11:18 “For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you.”

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

Effect

- Partiality / Favoritism

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

- Internal Pressure

–Fearful

–Ignorant

–Lazy

–Selfish

Effect

•Partiality / Favoritism

Relation

Cause and Effect—Partiality / Favoritism

Cause

- External Pressure

–Peer

–Authority

–Subordinate

–Intimate

Effect

•Partiality / Favoritism

Relation

More-Less Important—Partiality / Favoritism

Less Important

- Partiality / Favoritism

More Important

- Evangelism
- Encouragement
- Teaching

Relation

More-Less Important—Partiality / Favoritism

Less Important

- Evangelism
- Encouragement
- Teaching

More Important

•Partiality / Favoritism

Relation

Problem and Solution—Partiality / Favoritism

Problem

- Partiality / Favoritism

Solution

- Pray for recognition
- Repentance
- Forgiveness
- Change of behavior to impartiality

Valuation

- What do others think about partiality?

Valuation

- What do others think about partiality?

"In my most recent job, a coworker, already known for her emotional manipulations, inexplicably decided that she didn't want to work with me anymore. She approached the boss and made up reasons why she could no longer work with me; and he, despite my impeccable work ethic and performance, listened to her and let me go without even trying to work things out."

Valuation

- What do others think about partiality?

"When I worked at [blank], I was a favorite of a couple of the managers because I worked hard and wouldn't do what they asked me to if it was unethical. When I first refused to, he swore at me but afterward decided I was impressive and defended me and gave me every shift off I wanted. It felt nice to be favored, but it got me ill will from some of my employees and one other manager."

Valuation

- What does God think about partiality?

Valuation

- What does God think about partiality?
  - James 2:8-9
  - More than 20 other verses mentioning “partial” or “partiality” and condemning it
  - All the verses on unity
  - Christ’s death
- God’s prompting?

Application

- Partiality—temptation (1:13-18).
- Impartiality—needs to be tried (1:2-12), put to test, practiced, applied
- Attitude—Joyful, expecting a Christ-like result
- Where can we apply this?

Application

Gossip

Gossip

- Act of judgment
- Openly
- Tone of pride
- Anger?

Disclosure

- Act of trust
- Discretion
- Tone of humility
- Frustration?

Application

Gossip

Temptation—Partiality

•Unjust Judgment

•When you judge between parties, you favor one over another instead of doing justice.

- Internal and External Pressure

Effect(s)

•Unnecessary strain

•Division

Application

Gossip

Trial—Impartiality

Application

Gossip

Trial—Impartiality

•Be silent.

Verse

•Ecclesiastes 3:7 “A time to be silent and a time to speak.”

Application

Gossip

Trial—Impartiality

- Be silent.
- Give generous judgments.

Verse

- Ephesians 4:29 “Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth but only such *a word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment* so that it will give grace to those who hear.”

Application

Gossip

Trial—Impartiality

- Be silent.
- Give generous judgments.
- Examine the other side.

Verse

- Proverb 18:17 “The first to plead his case *seems* right *until* another comes and examines him.”

Application

Counseling

Application

Counseling

Temptation—Partiality

•Unjust Judgment

•When you judge between parties, you favor one over another instead of doing justice.

- Internal and External Pressure

Temptation—Partiality

- Divisive Action

•When you are in a setting that is level, equal, or fair, you favor some one or kind, which may result in division instead of keeping the unity.

•Internal and External Pressures

Application

Counseling

Trial—Impartiality

Application

Counseling

Trial—Impartiality

- Pray.

Verse

- 1 Thessalonians 5:17 “Pray without ceasing.”

Application

Counseling

Trial—Impartiality

- Pray.
- Seek many counselors.

Verse

- Proverb 15:22 “Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed.”
- Proverb 27:6 “Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.”

Application

Counseling

Trial—Impartiality

- Pray.
- Seek many counselors.
- Be open.

Verse

- Galatians 6:2 “Bear one another's burdens and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.”

Application

Fellowship

Application

Fellowship

Verses

- 1 Corinthians 11:18 “For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you.”
- 1 Corinthians 14:15,26 “What is *the outcome* then, brethren?”

Application

Fellowship

Temptation—Partiality

- Divisive Action
- When you are in a setting that is level, equal, or fair, you favor some one or kind, which may result in division instead of keeping the unity.
- Internal and External Pressures

Verses

- 1 Corinthians 11:18 “For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you.”
- 1 Corinthians 14:15,26 “What is *the outcome* then, brethren?”

Application

Fellowship

Temptation—Partiality

- Divisive Action

•When you are in a setting that is level, equal, or fair, you favor some one or kind, which may result in division instead of keeping the unity.

•Internal and External Pressures

- Healthy unity at HBC

Application

Fellowship

Temptation—Partiality

- Divisive Action

•When you are in a setting that is level, equal, or fair, you favor some one or kind, which may result in division instead of keeping the unity.

•Internal and External Pressures

- Healthy unity at HBC
- Division
  - Social
  - Cultural
  - Racial

Application

Fellowship

Trial—Impartiality

- Healthy unity at HBC
- Division

–Social

–Cultural

–Racial

Application

Fellowship

Trial—Impartiality

- Healthy unity at HBC
- Division

–Social

–Cultural

–Racial

- Stop poor racial jokes.

Verse

•Ephesians 5:4 “And *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.”

Application

Fellowship

Trial—Impartiality

- Healthy unity at HBC
- Division

–Social

–Cultural

–Racial

- Watch the cliques.

Verses

•1 Corinthians 1:12 “Now, I mean this: that each one of you is saying, ‘I am of Paul’ and ‘I of Apollos’ and ‘I of Cephas’ and ‘I of Christ.’”

Application

Fellowship

Trial—Impartiality

- Healthy unity at HBC
- Division

–Social

–Cultural

–Racial

- Reach out to others.

Verses

•1 John 4:19-20 “We love, because He first loved us. If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.”


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