Ministry of The Holy Spirit The Royal Law James 2:1-13

Last time...living as Jesus-kind in word AND in deed... doers of the Word and not hearers only... in these momentous days on earth and in this nation

This time...the Royal Law to govern all that "doing and hearing" Being Christ-like, and not antiChrist-like, toward others

We will be in James 2

v1 not the faith of Jesus Christ...with respect of persons:

My brethren...a letter written to the Church (Jewish at this point)

The Holy Spirit thru James tells us that 2 things do not mix: the faith of Christ and the respect of persons

1. the faith **of** Christ

Heb 11:1

Heb 11:6

Heb 12:2a "of faith"...not "our"

Eph 2:8-9 not "of" ourselves..." of "Christ!

Gal 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of

the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh

be justified.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet

not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Phil 3:9 not having mine own righteousness, which is of the

law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the

righteousness which is of God by faith:

Whereby, as recipients of the faith of Christ,

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

2 Cor 5:17-21 we are children of God

- new creatures in Christ
- reconciled to God
- made the righteousness of God in Jesus
- given a ministry of reconciliation
- ambassadors for Christ

2. respect of persons

favoritism...favoring one over another, "pro" discrimination...disfavoring one over another, "against"

have a higher respect/regard for one person over another based on

- economic status
- race, color of skin
- gender
- age
- outward beauty
- social position
- any other division whereby people compare and compete with each other
- Deut 1:17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; *but* ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment *is* God's
- Prov 24:23 *It is* not good to have respect of persons in judgment.
- Acts 10:34 Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons
- Rom 2:11 there is no respect of persons with God Eph 6:9
- 1 Peter 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning *here* in fear

Every person on earth is...made in the image of God (Gen 1:26-27) The child of God (John 1:12-13), follower of Jesus Christ, cannot "harbor" both

- the faith of Christ..."My Son in Whom I am well pleased" behind which is the Love of God "done" to the advantage of others
- 2. antiChrist attitudes of favoritism and discrimination behind which is Self love "done" for self-advantage

Favoritism/discrimination

based on

- economic status
- race, color of skin
- gender
- age
- outward beauty
- social position
- any other division whereby people compare and compete among people created in the image of God

is a rancid display of

- love of Self vs love of others
- fear of man vs fear of God
- pride vs humility
- rebellion vs submission
- wickedness totally contrary to the mind of Christ (Phil 2:5-8)

The faith of Jesus Christ and playing favorites/discriminating do not mix!

Note: this helps to "set the stage" for Acts 15, the brewing division

v2-4 ye have respect...partial in yourselves:

In difficult times that included famine, the issue facing the Church is one of economic status between people coming to worship; the same would hold for different, races, genders, ages, etc

Both a wealthy man decked out with

- jewelry
- "GQ" designer clothes...radiant, gorgeous, attention-getting and a poor man decked out with
 - no accessories
- dirty, smelly, shabby, tattered clothes come to church

If we have respect for...a higher regard for, place a higher worth/value on... the wealthy man

Sit in a good place...the best seat, a choice seat, up close where everyone can see that you are here

and have disrespect for ...dishonoring and mistreating...

the poor man

Stand over there...out of the way and concealed

Sit here beneath my feet (my feet have a higher place than you) then we are partial between two people, both created in the image of God,

comparing and separating between them, favoring and discriminating... in our hearts, contrary to the heart of God

Evil thinking and doing:

"This person can help me/us, we can be benefitted (carnally, e.g. food) by this person, but not this person."

Favoritism/discrimination is a heart problem and a "mind of man"

1 Tim 5:21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality

Is clothing a qualifier for entrance into a worship service?

1 Sam 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Matt 6:25-33

Is economic status...or race or gender or age etc...a measure of value in the Kingdom of God?

v5 God chosen the poor:

A reminder of God's heart and mind as revealed in Scripture

Hearken...listen and think, hear with understanding

It is easier for a poor man to see his poverty and dependence upon God
Matt 5:3-4 poor in spirit and mourning it
than it is for a rich man

Matt 19:16-26 rich young ruler, camel and the eye of a needle not "many"

God is the God of the poor, the needy who truly depend upon Him Lev 19:9-10 gleanings of the harvest for the poor

Deut 15:7-8 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother: But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, *in that* which he wanteth

Is 41:17 When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them

Prov 19:1 Better *is* the poor that walketh in his integrity, than *he that is* perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

The (spiritually) poor are

- 1. rich in faith
- 2. heirs of the kingdom of God

in that they love and depend on the God that first loved them

i.e. He is their worth/value...in this world and in the one to come

v6-7 But ye have despised the poor:

"ye have" – the Church has despised/ignored/mistreated the poor They have shown favoritism toward the wealthy, the powerful, the celebrity and discrimination toward the poor

The Church has erred

This is a problem of antiChrist proportions

The Church is in need of correction and instruction in righteousness After all,

Do not the powerful oppress/dominate/tromp all over the weak? Do not the worldly "Haves" abuse the worldly "have nots"?

Do not the wealthy drag the "not wealthy" into court to steal and destroy? Do not "Goliath" companies use the court system to bully, rape, and pillage small companies?

Do not the rich and powerful and celebrities revile/blaspheme the name of Jesus Christ our Lord?

Do they not try to destroy Christians?

States of CA, VA, CO...where the spirit of antiChrist is rising Cities like NYC, LA, Chicago, Portland, etc?

Will they do that to the Supreme Court nominee Amy Barrett? Are things about to get very ugly and nasty...Satan-like... in this nation?

v8-9 If ye fulfill the royal law:

Instead, the Church is instructed to obey the "royal law" – Love your neighbor as yourself

Lev 19:18 thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD

Gal 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Rom 13:9b-10 Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law

The "summary" of Table 2 of the 10 Commandments (Matt 22:36-40)

To not obey the royal law...by practicing favoritism, discrimination...is to

- sin against the God Who gave the royal law
- stand in opposition against the Lord God Almighty
- break the very "heart" of the Law

v10 keep...offend...guilty:

To be righteous/pleasing/acceptable before God apart from the faith of Christ is by the PERFECT obedience to the Law

Matt 5:48...every day, all day...in word, deed, and thought

How does a person with a sin nature do that?

Any impurity defiles the pure

The Law is spiritual (Rom 7:14) demands perfect obedience... anything less than absolute perfection is "law breaking"

Impossible

Matt 19:25-26

Rom 3:10

Rom 3:23

Rom 3:19 the law (so) that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God

We all fall short of that requirement, we all need God our Savior Gal 3:10-14

Which leaves no room for any of us to judge another, but all the room for faith

The faith of Christ and favoritism/discrimination do not mix!

But self-righteousness and discrimination do...antiChrist-likeness

To not love our neighbor...regardless of economic status, race, gender, beauty, social position, age, etc...as our Self, is breaking the whole Law of God A VERY serious heart issue

v11-12 He that said...So speak ye:

As He (God) said...do not commit adultery AND (not "or") do not kill To do one and not the other is to be a lawbreaker guilty before God Therefore, we are to say and do the Word of God with the heart of God

As are all who are "under" the Law of Liberty, freed from the bondage of the Law and now governed by a higher law, the Law of Love

Matt 5:17

Rom 10:4

Rom 8:1

2 Cor 3:17

Therefore

Gal 5:1

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage (works as means of salvation)

Gal 5:13-14 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Otherwise...

v13 judgment without mercy...shewed no mercy:

v1...two things that do not mix!

Embrace the faith of Christ and reject favoritism/discrimination

or

Reject the faith of Christ by embracing favoritism/discrimination

Be Christ-like

or

Be antiChrist-like

Be merciful (Matt 5:7)

or

Get no mercy (for our imperfections)

Mercy "exults against, boasts against" justice

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 7:18-19 Who *is* a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth *in* mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

There is greater glory in mercy than in justice

Since our Father delights in mercy, so should we! Favoritism/discrimination is not merciful, it is very judgmental Those who do will be judged accordingly

Application/Lessons

Prov 22:2 The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all.

And He loves them all!

Truths about favoritism

- 1. only God can see that which is the only valid measure of a man, his heart
- 2. the only standard of measure is Jesus Christ, and every man falls short
- 3. favoritism is foolishness and condemning, it is sin.

 How dare the pot judge the worthiness of other pots!
- 4. favoritism is love of Self and anti-love toward others
- Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith (the faith of Christ).

Satan, the tempter/liar/murderer, twists Scripture and uses the Word of God against the children of God

As he did with Adam and Eve and as he did with Jesus, so he does with the Church

Consider [PJ Media 9/30/20]

Where is the wickedness of favoritism and discrimination? In Christian ministries or in the State of VA?

The Christian ministries are NOT discriminating based on

- economic status
- race, color of skin
- gender
- age
- outward beauty
- social position

The State of VA claims they ARE discriminating, holding on par things "beyond choice" and choices of creatures that the Creator and His Word clearly says is sin/abomination

The State of VA is antiChrist-like in their legislation (and justification)

They are using the Bible as a club against the Church to destroy the Church

Per the Word of God, this is a case of man (State) rebelling against God
Is 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put
darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for
sweet, and sweet for bitter!

- Jer 8:12 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD
- Prov 24:21 My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: *and* meddle not with them that are given to change (the unchanging Word of God and its definitions of "truth" and "sin")
- Prov 24:22 For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?
- Prov 24:24 He that saith unto the wicked, Thou *art* righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him:
- Jer 6:16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls

And such is the state of affairs facing the Church in the world and in USA these days; why the Epistle of James is contemporary, "timely"

As darkness rises in these last days, we MUST

- a. Be diligent in our ambassadorship of Jesus Christ, who plays no favorites John 3:16
 - Gal 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father
 - 1 John 2:1b-3 And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
- b. Be not deceived...beware that the world will twist Scripture to accuse us of discriminating against
 - homosexuals
 - bi-sexuals
 - pedophiles
 - and all other sorts of wickedness and abomination

1 John 4:8b "God is love!"

Problem: God is also holy, hates sin, changes not, and just Judge of all sin John 16:7-11

Rom 12:18 "Live peaceable with all men!"

Problem: 1 Cor 5:9-13 Zech 8:16-17

John 13:35 "Jesus' disciples are known by their love!"

Problem: Love is speaking the Truth, it is not "hate speech"

Prov 8:7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness *is* an abomination to my lips

2 Tim 2:22-26 our enemy is spiritual, not political To oppose those who have been deceived is loving

Jer 9:1-9 1 Cor 2:14-17

Luke 7:34 "Jesus is the friend of sinners!"

Problem: Rev 19:11-16

"In Jesus' day the sinner was not His enemy. It was the church."

Problem: Church did not exist until Jesus had left planet earth.

Self-righteous unbelievers were Jesus' enemy.

Know...Matt 24:4 2 Tim 3:1-2a

2 Peter 3:9

We pray for repentance and revival in this nation

before Is 13:11

And I will punish the world for *their* evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible