James Lesson 3 (2022)

**NO FAVORITISM AMONG BELIEVERS**

James 2:1-13

Key Verse: 2:8-9

**Open it:**

1. For what reasons might a person think they are more important than another person?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 1-4. What specific example did James illustrate how favoritism was practiced in the church? Why are we inclined to treat certain people more favorably than others? In what ways have you been a victim of prejudice?
2. Read verses 5-7. What has God promised to the poor of this world? (5) What do rich people have a history of doing to people in the church? (6-7) Why do we often treat certain people as more important than others? How can we welcome poor people in our church?
3. Read verses 8-11. What is the royal law found in Scripture? (8; Mt. 7:12; Lev. 19:18) Why would God condemn us as lawbreakers if our sins were only “minor” ones, such as prejudice? (9-11) In what practical ways can we show genuine love to people of different races, cultures, and economic standing?
4. Read verses 12-13. By what standards should a person speak and act? Why should we be merciful?

**Apply it:**

1. From whom can you ask forgiveness for showing prejudice toward them? How can you change the way you look at wealth so that you value it as God does?