

Strong Tower Bible Study

Agenda

Lesson #32

Time 6:00pm -7:30pm

Topic: Beware of Favoritism

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Scripture text: James 2:1-13

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. 9 But if you show favoritism,

you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery, also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Things to know:

- God warns against favoritism
- Christians are to never sit in a seat of judgement
- The gospel is to be shared with all people of all ages
- Being partial is mentioned multiple times in the New Testament (Romans 2:11, Ephesians 6:9 and Colossians 3:25)

Discussion Questions

1. What is James warning us about Vs 1? Do you believe that God created all men equal in His sight?
2. Have you ever judged a person's salvation based on appearance? Vs 2-4
3. What are your true thoughts regarding those who panhandle, and those who are seemingly financially stable?

4. **Challenge question:** Could you say that Favoritism is being shown to the poor? Vs 5
5. How accurate are Vs 6-7
6. On what grounds should our treatment of others be based on? Vs 8-11
7. How are followers of Christ expected to conduct themselves? Vs 12
8. Why is there no mercy in judgement? Vs 13

Faith in Action

Hear both sides and Pray (**Deuteronomy 1:17**)

Call a brother or sister in Christ to Pray.

Reach out to a young person to check on them.

Remind yourself to slow down, God is in Control

Challenge of the Week

Share an answered prayer from your journal entry with someone

Or

Reach out to three young people to pray with them about their ***Future, Safety, Decisions, and Friendships.***

Scripture Application:

Deuteronomy 10:17-What is impactful about this scripture, how is it meaningful to you?

1 Timothy 5:21-Can you do this on your own or in the Power of the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 3:28-How can this scripture support you in ministering to someone?

Closing Prayer