

James 2:1-13

v1 – glorious	(adjective)	illustrious; of great renown; wonderful
v1 – favouritism	(noun)	treating someone or a group of people as a favourite by unfairly giving them special privileges
v2 – fine	(adjective)	elegant or very good quality
v2 – shabby	(adjective)	dirty or worn out
v3 – special attention	(noun)	particularly detailed care and concern
v4 – discriminated	(verb)	singled out a particular person or group based on a characteristic and unfairly given them worse treatment than others
v4 – evil	(adjective)	bad; wicked
v5 – faith	(noun)	strong belief or trust in something
v5 – inherit	(verb)	receive (e.g. property or money) from someone who has died
v6 – insulted	(verb)	spoken rudely to someone; offended someone
v6 – exploiting	(verb)	taking advantage of someone for your own benefit
v6 – dragging	(verb)	to pull or be pulled with force
v6 – court	(noun)	a place where legal matters are decided by a judge or jury
v7 – slandering	(verb)	saying something untrue about someone to damage their reputation
v7 – noble	(adjective)	respectable
v9 – convicted	(verb)	said to be guilty of an offence
v9 – lawbreaker	(noun)	criminal; someone who doesn't follow the law
v10 – 'keeps the whole law'	(phrase)	does everything that the law says
v10 – stumbles	(verb)	trips or falls while walking or running
v11 – adultery	(noun)	having sex with someone they are not married to
v12 – 'judged by the law'	(phrase)	assessed according to what the law says to do
v13 – mercy	(noun)	undeserved kindness
v13 – triumphs	(verb)	wins a victory

James 2:1-13 (New International Reader's Version)

My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. So treat everyone the same. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes. And suppose a poor man in dirty old clothes also comes in. ³Would you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes? Would you say, "Here's a good seat for you"? Would you say to the poor man, "You stand there"? Or "Sit on the floor by my feet"? ⁴If you would, aren't you treating some people better than others? Aren't you like judges who have evil thoughts?

⁵My dear brothers and sisters, listen to me. Hasn't God chosen those who are poor in the world's eyes to be rich in faith? Hasn't he chosen them to receive the kingdom? Hasn't he promised it to those who love him? ⁶But you have disrespected poor people. Aren't rich people taking advantage of you? Aren't they dragging you into court? ⁷Aren't they speaking evil things against the worthy name of Jesus? Remember, you belong to him.

⁸The royal law is found in Scripture. It says, "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." If you really keep this law, you are doing what is right. ⁹But you sin if you don't treat everyone the same. The law judges you because you have broken it. ¹⁰Suppose you keep the whole law but trip over just one part of it. Then you are guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹God said, "Do not commit adultery." He also said, "Do not commit murder." Suppose you don't commit adultery but do commit murder. Then you have broken the law.

¹²Speak and act like people who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom. ¹³Those who have not shown mercy will not receive mercy when they are judged. To show mercy is better than to judge.

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