

## James 2:1-13 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

### The Sin of Partiality

2 My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of personal favoritism*.<sup>2</sup> For if a man comes into your <sup>[a]</sup>assembly with a gold ring and dressed in <sup>[b]</sup>fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,<sup>3</sup> and you <sup>[c]</sup>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,"<sup>4</sup> have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil <sup>[d]</sup>motives?<sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor <sup>[e]</sup>of this world *to be rich* in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?<sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and <sup>[f]</sup>personally drag you into <sup>[g]</sup>court?<sup>7</sup> Do they not blaspheme the fair name <sup>[h]</sup>by which you have been called?

<sup>8</sup> If, however, you are fulfilling the <sup>[i]</sup>royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.<sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you are committing sin *and* are convicted by the <sup>[j]</sup>law as transgressors.<sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole <sup>[k]</sup>law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.<sup>11</sup> For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the <sup>[l]</sup>law.<sup>12</sup> So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty.<sup>13</sup> For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy <sup>[m]</sup>triumphs over judgment.

## James 2:1-13 New International Version (NIV)

### Favoritism Forbidden

<sup>2</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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," <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

<sup>5</sup> 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? <sup>6</sup> 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? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself,"<sup>[a]</sup> you are doing right. <sup>9</sup> But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery,"<sup>[b]</sup> also said, "You shall not murder."<sup>[c]</sup> If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

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

## James 2:1-13 New Living Translation (NLT)

### A Warning against Prejudice

2 My dear brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?

2 For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting<sup>[b]</sup> dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewelry, and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. 3 If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, "You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor"—well, 4 doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

5 Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him? 6 But you dishonor the poor! Isn't it the rich who oppress you and drag you into court? 7 Aren't they the ones who slander Jesus Christ, whose noble name<sup>[c]</sup> you bear?

8 Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: "Love your neighbor as yourself."<sup>[d]</sup> 9 But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

10 For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws. 11 For the same God who said, "You must not commit adultery," also said, "You must not murder."<sup>[e]</sup> So if you murder someone but do not commit adultery, you have still broken the law.

12 So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. 13 There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

## James 2:1-13 English Standard Version (ESV)

### The Sin of Partiality

2 My brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup>For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

<sup>8</sup>If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. <sup>11</sup>For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

## James 2:1-13 Amplified Bible (AMP)

### The Sin of Partiality

2 My fellow believers, do not practice your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude* of partiality [toward people—show no favoritism, no prejudice, no snobbery].<sup>2</sup> For if a man comes into your <sup>[a]</sup>meeting place <sup>[b]</sup>wearing a gold ring and <sup>[c]</sup>fine clothes, and a poor man in dirty clothes also comes in,<sup>3</sup> and you pay special attention to the one who wears the <sup>[d]</sup>fine clothes, and say to him, “You sit here in this good seat,” and you tell the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down [on the floor] by my footstool,”<sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves, and become judges with wrong motives?<sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters: has not God chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and [as believers to be] heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?<sup>6</sup> But you [in contrast] have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress *and* exploit you, and personally drag you into the courts of law?<sup>7</sup> Do they not blaspheme the <sup>[e]</sup>precious name [of Christ] by which you are called?

<sup>8</sup>If, however, you are [really] fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF [that is, if you have an unselfish concern for others and do things for their benefit]” you are doing well.<sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality [prejudice, favoritism], you are committing sin and are convicted by the Law as offenders.<sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole Law but stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of [breaking] all of it.<sup>11</sup> For He who said, “DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY;” also said, “DO NOT MURDER.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but you murder, you have become <sup>[f]</sup>guilty of transgressing the [entire] Law.<sup>12</sup> Speak and act [consistently] as people who are going to be judged by the law of liberty [that moral law that frees obedient Christians from the bondage of sin].<sup>13</sup> For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; but [to the one who has shown mercy] mercy triumphs [victoriously] over judgment.