

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.

Vv. 1-4 Believers...must not show...

- Command for believers
  - We honor the “glorious Lord Jesus Christ” (1)
  - An example of giving glory to a rich person (2-3)
    - Wealthy citizen
  - “Discriminated among yourselves...” (4)
    - Lev 19:15
      - Which is next to Lev 19:18 (quoted v. 8)

Vv. 5-7 Listen...has not God...

- A recap of why favoritism is not the will of God
  - Goes against God’s way of doing things (5)
  - Same turn around and persecute the Church (6)
  - Violate the “Royal Law” (7)

Vv. 8-11”...keep the Royal Law”

- “Love your neighbor”
  - Matt 22: 34-40
- Law that gives freedom...Mercy triumphs over judgement

James Series (Starts Dec 28)	Bible Studies	Events
<p>James (The Art of Christian Living)</p> <p>Find the series, notes and audio here:  <a href="https://www.redemption-church.net/sermons">https://www.redemption-church.net/sermons</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sun (Jan 18): Playing Church &amp; Favorites (2:1-13)</li> <li>- Sun (Jan 25): Visiting Church Pant Ethnos</li> <li>- Sun (Feb 1): Faith Works (2:14-26)</li> <li>- Sun (Feb 8): The Spiritual Discipline of Watching Your Mouth (3:1-18)</li> <li>- Sun (Feb 15): The Spiritual Discipline of fighting well (4:1-12)</li> </ul> <p><b>Lent Begins Wed. Feb 18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sun (Feb 22): The Spiritual Discipline of not loving wealth (4:13-5:6)</li> <li>- Sun (Mar 1): The Spiritual Discipline of Suffering well (5:7-12)</li> <li>- Sun (Mar 8): Fearless Healing Prayer (5:13-20)</li> <li>- Stations of the Cross Sermon series Begins (Mar 15, 22, 29 &amp; Apr 5)</li> </ul>	<p>Wed. Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jan. 21 &amp; 28 @ 7pm</li> <li>- Study Resources on website <a href="https://www.redemption-church.net/bible-studies/wed-bible-studies">https://www.redemption-church.net/bible-studies/wed-bible-studies</a></li> </ul> <p>Alpha Bible Study (In-person)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jan 24 &amp; 31</li> <li>- Saturdays 5-7:00 pm</li> <li>- At Soden home</li> </ul> <p>Sun (Jan. 18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New Member Class/Church Covenant Class (all welcome)</li> <li>- After Church</li> <li>- With Rev. Chestnut &amp; Rev. Dennis</li> </ul> <p>Stay up on Studies and Resources  <a href="https://www.redemption-church.net/">https://www.redemption-church.net/</a></p>	<p>Sunday (Jan. 25)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fellowship Sunday</li> <li>- Visiting a Church Plant</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.ethnoshouston.org/">https://www.ethnoshouston.org/</a></p> <p><b>Sundays - 10:15 am</b></p> <p>Ashford Elementary School  1815 Shannon Valley Dr.  Houston, TX 77077</p> <p>Thanks for visiting today.  Please scan and fill out our information form.  <a href="https://www.redemption-church.net/">https://www.redemption-church.net/</a></p> 