

The Epistle of James

Week 3: James 2 – The Rich & “the poor man,” Partiality & The Royal Law

Outline of the book of James

- A. 1:2-27 – Patience and faith in trials, sin & save your souls
- B. 2:1-7 – Rich and “the poor man”
- C. 2:8-13 – Royal law & partiality, Judged by the law of liberty
- D. 2:14-26 – Justification [*dikaio*] & works
- E. 3:1-12 – The tongue
- D’ 3:13-18 – Righteousness [*dikaosune*], Wisdom, & works
- C’ 4:1-12 – Members at war; Judged by the Lawgiver
- B’ 4:13-5:6 – Rich & “the righteous one”
- A’ 5:7-21 – Patience in suffering, sin & save his soul

A. Joy in trial, 1:2-8

B. Rich fade, 1:9-11

C. Lustfulness, 1:12-15

D. Perfect Gift, 1:16-25

E. Restraining the tongue, 1:26

F. Religion in deed, 1:27

G. Distinctions of rich and poor, 2:1-13

F’. Faith in works, 2:14-26

E’. Restraining the tongue, 3:1-12

D’. Wisdom as perfect gift, 3:13-18

C’. Lustfulness and sin, 4:1-12

B’. Ways of the rich, 4:13-5:6

A’. Patience in suffering, 5:7-20

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I. 2:1-7 – Rich and “the poor man” – Showing Partiality

Rom 2:11; 1 Pet. 1:17 Impartiality is an important component of the Mosaic law (Ex. 23:3; Deut. 1:17; 10:17; 16:19), and especially Lev. 19:15, 18

Not broad condemnations of all rich people – Specifically about showing partiality

II. 2:8-13 – Royal law & partiality, Judged by the law of liberty

The Royal Law of the King “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Lev. 19:18 – quoted by Jesus in Matt. 5:43; 19:19; 22:39-40)

Sermon on the Mount; Matthew 18:21-35 (Unforgiving Servant) and 25:31-46 (Do Unto Me)