

MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT

James 2:1-13

NEIL TRAINER

October 8, 2017



NOTES

MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT

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Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- When attending a concert, play, or even worship service, where do you prefer to sit? In the front or back? The middle or the side? Why?
- *Read James 2:1-13.* What insight do you get into the community life of the Christians to whom James writes? What do you deduce about the challenges they were facing?
- To what example of favoritism or partiality does James point in v. 2-4? If James were writing to the Church today, what example might he use?
- How are those whom the church disfavors actually objects of God's favor (v. 5)? What is the reason for this?
- According to James, why is it folly for these early Christians to favor the rich (v. 6-7)? What might be parallels for the Church today?
- What is "the royal law" (v. 8)? How does this contrast with favoritism? How does stumbling at one point make one guilty of breaking the whole law (v. 9-11)? What is the consequence of not keeping the law?
- What would a person's life look like who spoke and acted as one going to be judged by the law of freedom (v. 12)? What would doing this look like for you?
- How does mercy triumph over judgment (v. 13)? When have you seen this happen?
- Who are the "rich" or the favored in our church today? Who are the "poor"? Are there ways in which we must turn from the sin of favoritism and actively show mercy instead of judgment?
- How can you keep God's royal law to love your neighbor as yourself with one person this week? How can your small group or others pray for you about this?

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

Next Week: James 2:14-26