

## JAMES – LESSON 4

### IV. PRACTICAL FAITH: SHOW NO RESPECT OF PERSONS (2:1-13)

- A. Nature of problem: Christians regarding the rich while dishonoring the poor (2:1-4).
  - 1. Giving rich man good place in the synagogue, while the poor man sits under your footstool.
  - 2. Brethren are making distinctions – becoming judges with evil thoughts.
- B. Christians exhorted to think about their actions in dishonoring the poor (2:5-6a).
  - 1. God chose them that are poor as to the world to be rich in faith.
  - 2. God chose them that are poor as to the world to be heirs of the kingdom.
    - a. A promise to them that love God.
- C. Christians exhorted to think about their actions in showing special regard towards the rich (2:6b-7).
  - 1. The oppress Christians – drag them before the judgment seats.
  - 2. They blaspheme the honorable name by which Christians are called.
- D. Fulfilling the royal law (2:8)
  - 1. Loving thy neighbor as thyself.
  - 2. In doing so, ye do well.
- E. We will be judged by a law of liberty (2:9-13)
  - 1. Sin in one part of law – guilty of all.
  - 2. Judgment without mercy to them who show no mercy.
  - 3. Mercy glorieth against judgment.

### QUESTIONS:

- 1. What all is involved in “*holding the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ*”?
- 2. What action can never fit with our profession of Christ?
- 3. How were the Christians showing *respect of persons*?  
Can this be done in our assemblies today? (Explain why or why not.)
- 4. What riches has God chosen the poor to have?

5. How do we know that James is not making a blanket *commendation* for being poor?
  
6. What were the rich doing with to the Christians?
  
7. What is the “*royal law*” ?  
Why is this law “*royal*” ?
  
8. What traps can we fall into when we think wrongly concerning “*the law*”?
  
9. By what standard will we be judged?
  
10. Explain why manifesting mercy in this life is so important?