

PRESSURE POINTS

A Study of the Book of James

Part 4

How to Treat People Right

James 2:1 (NIV) My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

(NLT) how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?

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.

FOUR COMMON AREAS OF DISCRIMINATION

1. **A** _____
2. **A** _____
3. **A** _____
4. **A** _____

THREE PROBLEMS WITH FAVORITISM

1. **Favoritism is** _____

Romans 2:11 (NKJ) For there is no partiality with God (NIV) "God does not show favoritism"

2. **Favoritism is** _____

3. **Favoritism is** _____

Galatians 5:14 "All the law is summed up in one sentence, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'."

I John 4:20 "If a man says he loves God and hates his brother he's lying. How can you love God whom you haven't seen if you don't love your brother whom you have seen?"

"Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

THE PRESCRIPTION: HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE RIGHT

1. **A** _____ everybody.

2. **A** _____ everybody.

3. **A** _____ everybody.

Galatians 3:26-27 "For now we are all children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. We are no longer Jew or Greek or slave or freemen or even men or women." We're all the same. There is no distinction in the body of Christ. We are Christians. We are one in Christ Jesus."