Star-Struck (James 2:1-13)

Partiality

"My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?" James 2:1-7 NKJV

James 2:1-7

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Partiality

- Unfair bias in favor of one thing or person compared with another; favoritism:
- This was clearly on the mind of Y'shua as a staple of our Christian faith. Treat others the way you wish to be treated!
 - "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise." Luke 6:31 NKJV
 - "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

 Matthew 7:12 NKJV
 - Y'shua is simply reiterating the Law:
 - "You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. {17} 'You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as

yourself: I am the Lord." Leviticus 19:15, 17-18 NKJV

- **✓ Y'shua is simply reiterating the Prophets:**
 - "Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, For the reward of his hands shall be given him." Isaiah 3:11 NKJV
 - "Shout against her all around; She has given her hand, Her foundations have fallen, Her walls are thrown down; For it is the vengeance of the Lord. Take vengeance on her. As she has done, so do to her." Jeremiah 50:15 NKJV
- **<u>Ine big question as we move on...</u>**
 - ✓ Would you want someone to treat you with partiality?
- "For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?"

 James 2:2-4 NKJV
 - **☑** <u>Judges with Evil Thoughts</u>

- ☑ Have not we become a society fascinated and greatly impressed by rich and famous people?
- We give special deference to popular athletes, entertainers, musicians, politicians, and entrepreneurs.
- Oftentimes, despite the fact that many such people in these groups have very differing values than you, you are still drawn to and enamored by them.

☑ In Contrast

- And then in stark contrast, might you treat someone who is poor and unaccomplished differently, as if lesser? In Leviticus 19:15 we are literally commanded about such things on both sides of this coin, "Do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. It is evil to judge someone and thereby treat someone differently because of their wealth, influence or poverty.
- And this goes either way! Don't treat the poor as if better or worse; and don't treat the rich as if better or worse.
- Rather treat everyone as you would wish they treat you!

 "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them,
 for this is the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7:12

- "Listen, my beloved brethren: **Has God not chosen the poor**of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom
 which He promised to those who love Him?" James 2:5 NKJV
 - - "Blessed are **the poor in spirit**, For **theirs is the kingdom** of heaven." Matthew 5:3 NKJV
 - There is something powerful about having needs that can't seem to be satisfied by what the world offers. Sure, sometimes these needs are very practical, like food, clothing, housing, or freedom. And missing those things makes us desperate. But that just scratches the surface.

 No doubt, a dearth of you physical needs being met can make one desperate, and many times this does push us toward God, and that is a good thing.
 - But all too often it is those with everything the world has to offer, all the fame and fortune, who become the most desperate. They are the ones who eventually realize (if they are lucky!) that what the world offers can never satisfy their deepest needs.
 - When the world is satisfying your needs, your need for faith takes a back seat!

- "But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?" James 2:6-7 NKJV
 - **☑** It's like watching today's news!
 - **Do not the rich oppress you? Let's think about a few examples:** "Are these the people you look up to?"
 - Rich Entrepreneurs: Think Bill Gates and George Soros as the quintessential examples. The original name of The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation was The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Population Control. Need I say more!? He was behind the Covid Pandemic / Scamdemic. He profited from the deaths and suffering of millions. George Soros is the money source for every evil liberal communist agenda and organization out there. They don't even hide it!
 - Rich Politicians: That is a perfect segue for the permanent political class. Rich, out of touch, personal agenda-driven politicians who care nothing for the rule of law and have one objective. Stay in power to control everything about your life!
 - ☑ Rich Corporations: Their policies and public support for those people and agendas that are contrary to faith,

family and freedom are obvious. Again they do not hide this. Think Apple, Facebook, Twitter, Google, Netflix, Disney, You-Tube, etc.

- Rich You-Tubers: And this is a perfect segue to all those famous YouTubers (and other social media stars) who tow the party line. They literally produce NOTHING of value, LITERALLY. However, their mindless dribble attracts millions of people who have been so drugged up on chemicals and entertainment and who are so over-fed with their self-indulgent narcissistic empty calories, that their massive audiences of zombies make them rich and famous enough to cause them think they have something of value and substance to add to the narrative—it doesn't and they don't!
- Rich Main Stream Media: Finally, the woke media which is just the marketing department of the globalist liberal agenda is most oppressive of all. Why? Because they happily report as news (any of the above lies), what is really just advertising. What do they promote? Anything any of those in the above class (and others) order from the menu. Blast the zombies so often, with so much junk-food, that they become so over-stuffed

with sewage, that they actually think it is true. It is all just an ultimate gaslighting campaign!

☑ Do not the rich drag you into the courts?

- If they can't convince you their lies are true, they will force you to believe they are by any means at their disposal.
- It's a simple philosophy. "I have the rights to believe, say and do whatever I please, and you have the same rights as long as they agree with me. In other words, you are free to agree with me, but otherwise you must be silenced. We cannot allow racists, bigots, homophobes, and gender ideologues to have any say about any thing. That would be dangerous. And you are these things if you don't agree with me. It's that simple!"

☑ Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

The Image of God: I would highly recommend that you visit and watch any and all versions of this teaching and read the notes on our website. It pulls back the curtain and shows you precisely what is going on in the world today; it exposes the real battle. There are only two sides; one side says there is a God and that God shows Himself as a divine family (Father, Spirt, and Son).

- And He has demonstrated that image in the earth, in human form, as an earthly family (father, mother, and child).
- Any person, institution, or systems that deny any part of the family via the denial or twisting of gender identity; the destruction or perversion of marriage; or the murder of unborn children, are those who are saying, "THERE IS NO GOD!" They are literally blaspheming that noble name by which you are called!

The Royal Law

"If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

James 2:8-13 NKJV

- "If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture,
 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; but if
 you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the
 law as transgressors." James 2:8-9 NKJV
 - - "You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. {17}

 You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord."

 Leviticus 19:15, 17-18 NKJV
 - We already deeply explored the partiality part of this.

 Let's now dive deeper into the: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" portion. Again, "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7:12 NKJV
 - **What does it mean to love you neighbor?**

- The secret part no one is talking about: "You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin..."
 - This is the key—you cannot standby and watch your brother sin and say nothing about it. You are called to and responsible for correcting your brother just the way God corrects us.
 - God chastens those He loves: "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." [Pr. 3:11-12] {8} But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons." Hebrews 12:5-6, 8 NKJV
 - But do it in love: "but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—" Ephesians 4:15 NKJV
- "For whoever **shall keep the whole law,** and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not

commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law." James 2:10-11 NKJV

- Any sin makes you a sinner—so doesn't it make sense that we should help each other NOT SIN!
 - "As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;"
 Romans 3:10 NKJV
 - "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"Romans 3:23 NKJV
- "So **speak and so do as** those who will be **judged by the law of liberty.** For **judgment is without mercy** to the one who has
 shown no mercy. **Mercy triumphs over judgment**." James
 2:12-13 NKJV
 - **✓ Judged by the Law (speak and do!)**
 - as a sinner, one who is tried and convicted (and that is all of us) and you do not also have the law of liberty—Christ has set you free, paid the price for your sins—then your judgment would be without mercy. In other words, "judged by the law of NO liberty." That is a death sentence. If you would rather not be treated as such, then you'd better not treat others as such!

- Since you are treating others the way you want to be treated...
 - ✓ Judge without mercy: You sin you die!
 - ✓ Judge with mercy: You sin and you can still live because someone else is treating you the way He wants you to treat Him (that would be Y'shua!)
 - **Simple Math:** forgive and you will be forgiven
 - "And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."
 Matthew 6:12 NKJV
 - ""And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."" Mark 11:25-26 NKJV

Mercy

- Mercy over sacrifice: "But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.""

 Matthew 9:13 NKJV [from Hosea 6:6]
- You can bring all your offerings to the Lord and and yet what is more important to God is how you treat one another. Sure, bring your offerings to God, but first make sure you are loving your neighbor.

- "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing." I Corinthians 13:3 NKJV
- "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24 NKJV

NEXT TEACHING

The Coin Has Two Sides (James 2:14-26)