



Sermon



My kids are always accusing me of having a favorite child which is ridiculous because I don't really like any of them.



SNARKECARDS

“I realized my parents favoured my twin brother when they asked me to blow up balloons for his surprise birthday party.”

James

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because man's anger does not bring about the righteousness that God desires.

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, when you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without rebuke, and it will be given to him. But he must believe without doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. He will not be able to do anything when the wind blows, because he is unstable and unstable in all his ways.

and Temptations

Do not think that the Lord is testing you. He is faithful and he will not let you be tempted beyond what you are able to bear. But with the temptation will come the escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

...a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.
...the twelve tribes scattered among the nations.
...and temptations
...consider it pure joy, my brothers, when you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without rebuke, and it will be given to him. But he must believe without doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. He will not be able to do anything when the wind blows, because he is unstable and unstable in all his ways.

Favouritism honours the wrong things

‘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. 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,’ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?’ (James 2:2-4)

Favouritism honours the wrong things

Favouritism =

‘to receive someone according to their face’

“Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly.”

(Lev. 19:15)

Favouritism honours the wrong things *by focusing on external things*

‘The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’

(1 Samuel 16:7)

Favouritism honours the wrong things *by focusing on what will benefit us most*

‘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? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you...dragging you into court...blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?’ **James 2:5-7**

Favouritism honours the wrong things
by focusing on what will benefit us most

The favouritism of self

Favouritism dishonours God

‘If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself,’ you are doing right. But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it...‘You shall not commit adultery,’...‘You shall not murder.’

James 2:8-11

Favouritism dishonours God

‘Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.’

James 2:12-13

Favouritism dishonours God

‘My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism.’

James 2:1

‘For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.’

2 Cor. 8:9

Favouritism dishonours God

‘...judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.’

James 2:12-13

‘whoever has been forgiven little loves little’

Luke 7:47

Favouritism dishonours God

by violating His royal law

by mocking the triumph of the cross

Favouritism honours the wrong things

by focusing on what will benefit us most

by focusing on external things