

**THE FOLLY OF FAVORITISM**  
*James 2:1-13 // September 28, 2025 PM*

*Saving faith is incompatible with worldly favoritism.*

**I. Favoritism contradicts God's *gospel* (vv. 1-7).**

**II. Favoritism contradicts God's *law* (vv. 8-13).**

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is partiality? How were the Christians James addresses falling prey to this sin?
2. Why does James refer to Jesus as "the Lord of glory"? What does that have to do with showing partiality to the worldly rich?
3. How does worldly favoritism contradict the gospel?
4. How does it contradict the law?
5. What was the point Pastor Nick made in his illustration about the buffet? Why can't we pick and choose which commandments we live by?
6. How can being under God's law be spoken of as liberty (v. 12)?
7. Is James teaching that we will be saved by our works of mercy and love on judgment day? How are we to understand vv. 12-13?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. In what way am I particularly tempted to show worldly favoritism? What about my church?
2. How is James' prohibition of partiality not a call to endorse sin or to celebrate sinful lifestyles?
3. Does my life evidence a love that harmonizes with both the law and the gospel? Is there any area of my life where I am justifying lovelessness, picking and choosing which commands I keep?