

STUDY WITH THE BOOK OF THE BOOK OF DASTOR

James Chapter 2



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Outline of James Chapter 2

A. Building Christian Maturity By Living Out The Royal Law (2:1-26)

- **1.** Avoiding Favoritism as an Expression of the Royal Law (2:1-13)
 - a) Disconnect Between Faith and Favoritism (v. 1)
 - **b)** Discrimination in the Worship Gathering (v. 2-4)
 - c) Discourse Against Discrimination (v. 5-7)
 - d) Deepening our Understanding of the The Royal Law (v. 8-13)
- Living Out Our Faith as an Expression of the Royal Law (2:14-26)
 - **a)** Faith Only? (v. 14-17)
 - **b)** Works Only? (v. 18-19
 - c) Faith Without Works Is Dead (v. 20-26)

WHAT IS THE ROYAL LAW?

Avoiding Favoritism as an Expression of the Royal Law

My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with partiality. **2** For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in [a]fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in [b]filthy clothes, **3** and you [c]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," **4** have you not [d]shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 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? **6** But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? **7** Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

8 If you really fulfill *the* royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; **9** but if you [e]show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors. **10** For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one *point*, he is guilty of all. **11** 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. **12** So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. **13** For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

1. Disconnect Between Faith and Favoritism (v. 1)

2. Discrimination in the Worship Gathering (v. 2-4)

3. Discourse Against Discrimination (v. 5-7)

4. Deepening our Understanding of the The Royal Law (v. 8-13)

Living Out Our Faith as an Expression of the Royal Law

14 What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? **15** If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, **16** and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit? **17** Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without [f]your works, and I will show you my faith by [g]my works. **19** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! **20** But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is [h]dead? **21** Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? **22** Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made [i]perfect? **23** And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was [j]accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. **24** You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

1. Faith Only? (v. 14-17)

2. Works Only? (v. 18-19)

3. Faith Without Works Is Dead (v. 20-26)

A Few Questions To Consider

- 1. What are other ways the Church shows favoritism outside of wealth?
- 2. What does it mean to fulfill the Royal Law?
- 3. Is the Apostle Paul and James having the same conversation as it relates to "Faith and Works"?
- 4. Is there an area of your life where you need better alignment between your faith and your works? If so, explain.
- 5. Where are there connections between what you read and learned in chapter 2 with what is written in chapter 1 of James.