

“Developing Spiritual Maturity in Loving Without Favoritism” 2/06/11
James 2:1-13

James- Pressing on Toward Spiritual Maturity

The spiritually mature will: 1) be patient in trials/testing; 2) practice the truth; 3) control the tongue; 4) be a peacemaker, not a trouble maker; 5) be prayerful in various challenges (Warren Wiersbe on book of James)

What are the two greatest commandments? (Matthew 22:36-40) How should we show love to our neighbor?

POINT 1- We love without favoritism by avoiding being JUDGMENTAL

- A. Being judgmental inevitably leads to showing FAVORITISM
(Matt 22:16; 2 Cor 5:16; Gal 1:10; 1 Thess 2:4; John 12:43)
- B. Being judgmental is demonstrated when we miss God’s STANDARDS
(Galatians 2:6; 1 Cor 1:26-27; 1 Sam 16:7; Prov 17:5; 21:13)

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28)

Going God wants you to assess your own attitudes and repent!
Deeper

POINT 2- We love without favoritism by submitting to the great JUDGE

- A. We submit to the great judge by following His command to LOVE
(Lev 19:15, 18; Luke 14:25-37; John 13:35; 1 John 3:16; 1 Cor 13:1-8a)

"By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (1 John 3:16)

C.S. LEWIS QUOTE on Charity (Mere Christianity- Chapter 9)

- B. We submit to the great judge by knowing we will be ACCOUNTABLE
(Matt 13:34-37; Eccl 12:14; Rom 14:10-14; 2 Cor 5:10; Col 3:17-25)

"No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Going God wants you to speak and do as one knowing you will give an answer!
Deeper

For next week: Please read James 2:1-26; Romans 4; Genesis 15:1-10; 22:1-20.