How to Treat People Right

## Developing a Faith That Works - Part 6

James 2:1-13

"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing right,"(vs. 8)

## I. THE PRINCIPLE

Don't show FAVORITISM. (vs. 1)

"My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism."

DEF: "Favoritism"

## Areas of Discrimination

 \* *APPEARANCE*

 \* *ANCESTRY*

 \* *AGE*

 \* *ACHIEVEMENT*

 \* *AFFLUENCE*

 Illustration (vs. 2-4)

## II. THE PROBLEM

1. FAVORITISM IS UNCHRISTIAN (vs. 1)

"For God does not show favoritism." Rom. 2:11

Acts 10:34, Eph. 6:9, Col. 3:25

"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Sam. 16:7

2. FAVORITISM IS UNREASONABLE (vs. 5-7)

"... Has not God chosen those who are poor ... to be rich in faith ... and inherit the kingdom ...?"

"Is it not the rich who are exploiting you ...?"

3. FAVORITISM IS UNLOVING (vs. 8-9)

"Anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen" 1 John 4:20

 The seriousness of it (vs. 10-13)

## III. THE PRESCRIPTION: HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE RIGHT

**(And How to Have A Loving Church)**

1. ACCEPT EVERYBODY Rom. 15:7

"Accept one another just as Christ accepted you ..."

2. APPRECIATE EVERYBODY Phil. 2:3-5

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interests of others."

3. AFFIRM EVERYBODY 1 Thess. 5:11

"Encourage one another and build each other up ..."