

**Title:** The Believer's Duty Of Impartial Love

**Text:** 2:1-13

**Main Idea:** Prejudice is not of God!

**Division Statements:**

**1. God has given us a standard: love without partiality (vv. 1-4).**

Note: Partiality - προσωποληψία (prosopolempsia) - prejudice, personal favoritism, respect of persons. The word has the literal meaning of lifting up someone's face with the idea of judging by appearance and on that basis giving special favor and respect. It pertains to judging purely on a superficial level, of judging based on worldly human categories: age, race, skin color, economic status (as in the example of verses 2-4) etc.

**2. Partial love is inconsistent with the love of God (vv. 5-7).**

Note: James compares the partiality of his readers with God's own gracious choice highlighting the inconsistency of such thinking with the love of our God and King.

**3. Partial love renders on guilty before God (vv. 8-11).**

Note: Impartial love is a way of fulfilling the command to "Love Your neighbor as yourself" according to verse 8. Partiality in your relationships makes you guilty of the whole law of God (vv. 9-11).

**4. Partial love is inconsistent with a true and living faith (v. 12).**

Note: Once again, James challenges us to love and act in accordance with those who have a true salvation. The "law of liberty" here means the same thing as it did in 1:25. It is the "word of God" in a general sense. Rightly understood the word of God is always a "law of liberty," because it reveals to us our need for Christ and leads us to salvation in Him. Through the ministry of this law we become free in Christ.

**5. Impartial love reveals the triumph of mercy in your life (v. 13).**

Note: Prejudice is without mercy and reveals that a person is headed for a terrifying judgment. However, impartial love reveals the triumph of mercy and the reality of salvation.

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