



ARGYLE SPRING PREACHING SERIES Jan—Apr 2026

James

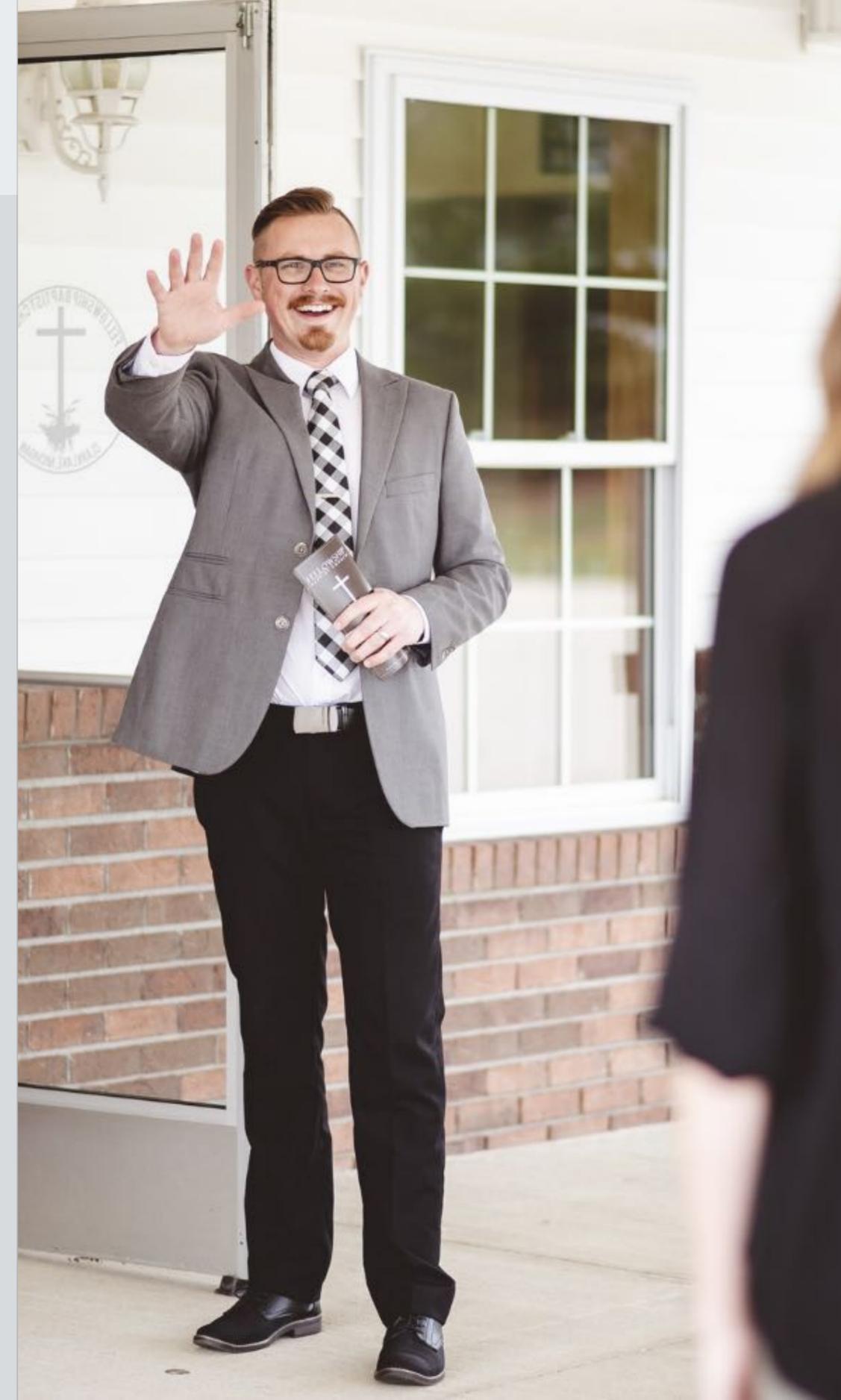
Genuine religion, faith and wisdom



Sunday 08 February

Don't show favouritism

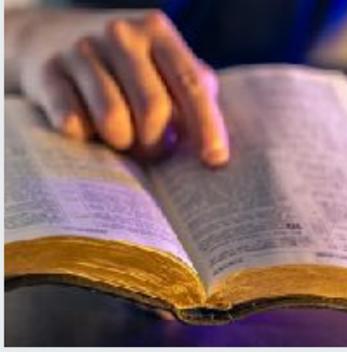
James 2:1—13





JAMES
2:1—4

1 My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. **2** Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. **3** If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, 'Here's a good seat for you,' but say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my feet,' **4** have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?



DEFINITION

Favouritism

The practice of giving unfair preferential treatment to one person or group at the expense of another





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JESUS REVOLUTION





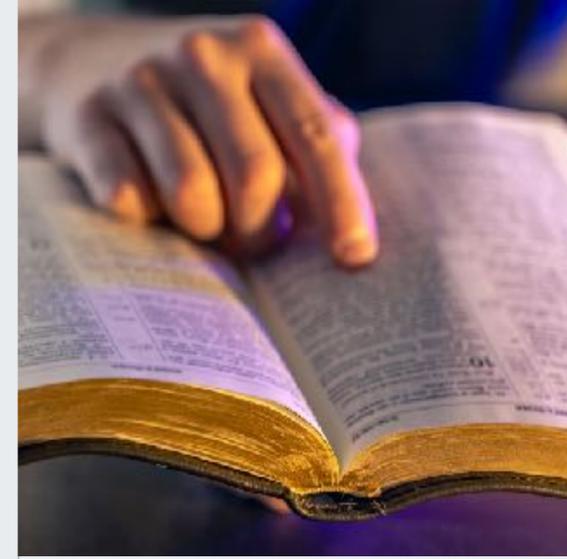
JAMES

2:5—7

5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

6 But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

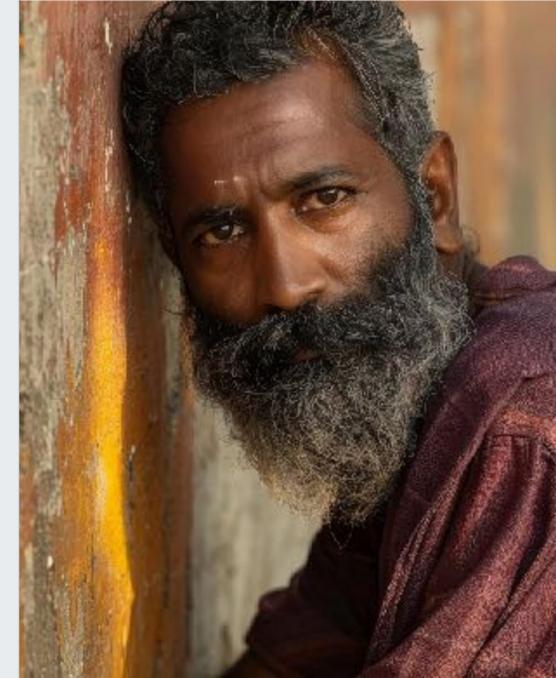
7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?



Why
favouritism
towards the
rich is foolish

**1. Because God has
chosen the poor**

"...has not God chosen
those who are poor?" v5



**2. Because the rich
are exploiting you**

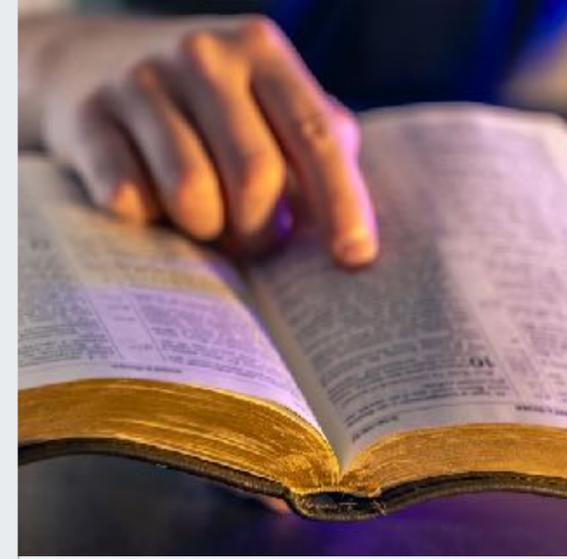
"Is it not the rich who are
exploiting you?" v6

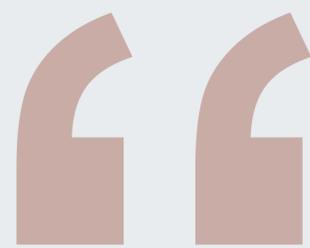




JAMES
2:8—11

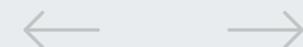
8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbour as yourself,' you are doing right. **9** But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers. **10** For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. **11** For he who said, 'You shall not commit adultery,' also said, 'You shall not murder.' If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a law-breaker.





Showing favouritism to the elite and privileged is a flagrant violation of loving your neighbour (those in need) as yourself. James views such an action as deliberate and ugly. It is not merely an excusable lack of courtesy, but a scandalous breach of God's love.

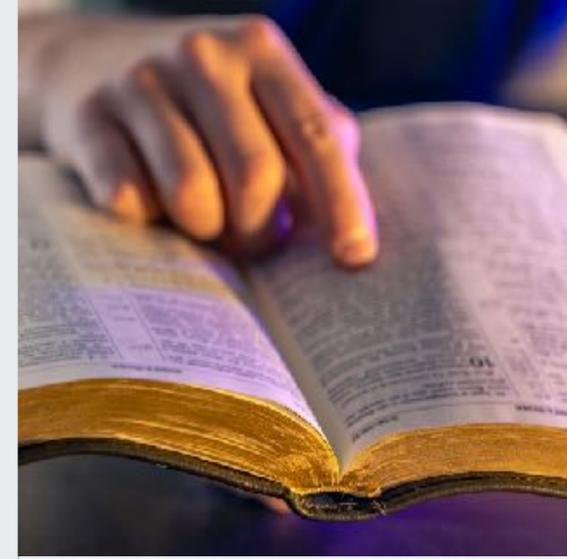
R. KENT HUGHES





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James 2:12—13

Warning of judgement

12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,

13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful.

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

