

**The Book Of James**  
**#5-Love and the Law**

**Memory Verse - Hand Out Scriptures to read**

**“For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment”** (James 2:13, NASB).

**James 2:1–13; Mark 2:16; Lev. 19:17, 18; Rom. 13:8–10; John 12:48.**

**The Man in Gold**

**\*Gold man**

**James 2:1–4** (NKJV) *My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you 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,” have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?*

**\*Proverbs 23:4–5** (NKJV) *Do not overwork to be rich; Because of your own understanding, cease! Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.*

**Mark 2:16–17** *And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, “How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?” When Jesus heard it, He said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”*

**Luke 11:43** (NKJV) *Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.*

**Matthew 5:7** (NKJV) *Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.*

**Psalms 41:1–3** (NKJV) *Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive, And he will be blessed on the earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies. The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.*

**Class Struggle**

**James 2:5–6** (NKJV) *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? But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts?*

**\*Luke 6:20** (NKJV) *Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: “Blessed are you poor, For yours is the kingdom of God.”*

**James 2:7** (NKJV) *Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?*

**Exodus 23:8** (NKJV) *And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the discerning and perverts the words of the righteous.*

**Proverbs 22:2** (KJV 1900) *The rich and poor meet together: The LORD is the maker of them all.*

**Loving Our Neighbors**

**James 2:8–9** (NKJV) *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 show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.*

**Leviticus 19:17–18** (NKJV) *‘You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

**Matthew 5:43–45** (NKJV) *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”*

“Sin is the greatest of all evils, and it is ours to pity and help the sinner. There are many who err, and who feel their shame and their folly. They are hungry for words of encouragement. They look upon their mistakes and errors, until they are driven almost to desperation. These souls we are not to neglect. If we are Christians, we shall not pass by on the other side, keeping as far as possible from the very ones who most need our help. When we see human beings in distress, whether through affliction or through sin, we shall never say, This does not concern me.”—EG. White, DA, p. 504.

**The Whole Law**

**James 2:10–11** (NKJV) *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.*

**Deuteronomy 6:4–6** (NKJV) *“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.*

**Matthew 22:36–40** (NKJV) *“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’<sup>38</sup> This is the first and great commandment.<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’<sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

**Romans 13:9–10** (NKJV) *For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”<sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.*

**\*Galatians 5:14–15** (NKJV) *For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!*

**Like chickens pecking each other.**

### Judged by the Law

**James 2:12–13** (NKJV) *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.*

**\*John 12:48** (KJV 1900) *He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*

**Hebrews 4:12–13** (NKJV) *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.<sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.*

**Romans 2:12–13** (NKJV) *For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified;*

**\*The Gold Man** - A man in Indian, Datta (Fuji) Phuge, has taken extravagance to a new level. He recently ordered the creation of the world's most expensive shirt made with more than 7lbs. of 22-karat gold and worth over \$250,000. Mr. Phuge, also nicknamed "the gold man", already has his knuckles, neck, and wrists weighed down with chunky gold bracelets, gaudy signet rings, and a gigantic medallion that Olympic champions might envy. The spectacular shirt is covered with 14,000 gold flowers interwoven with 100,000 gilded spangles and a lining of the finest white velvet. Because it cannot be dry-cleaned great care must be taken not to let it get dirty or sweaty which is hard to avoid during an Indian summer. Given its impractical nature, the glittering garment is only worn on special occasions, and Phuge must have his security guards with him wherever he does. Mr. Phuge believes gold is a good investment and admits he likes to wear his money. So does the bible have anything to say about wearing gold and jewelry?