

## James 2:1-7



Read James 2:1-7.

If you were going to give a title to this passage, what would it be? (Don't just use the one in your Bible, and see if you can come up with something creative).

James describes a scenario in vv2-3. What happens? How do you react to it? Can you give some contemporary parallel examples?

What reasons does James give to show that favouritism is wrong?

Verse 1 is the only place where James explicitly mentions Jesus, apart from in the greeting at the start of the letter (1:1). Suggest some reasons why he mentions Jesus here.

What is favouritism? We use other words for similar faults: discrimination, prejudice and bias. How do these relate to each other? How do they help to show the injustice of favouritism?

How does this section relate to James' other discussions of wealth and poverty? (See 1:9-11, 27; 2:15-16; 4:1-3, 13-17; 5:1-6).

Why is wealth such a likely cause of favouritism?

Can you think of some areas where you, personally, are at risk of showing favouritism? Think about family, work, church and other activities.

What are some examples of systemic discrimination, where people are treated unfairly by social patterns or policies? Can you think of ways in which Christians have been part of changing such discrimination? What areas should Christians be concerned about now? What might we do, individually or together?