

# JAMES STUDY

## CHAPTER 2:10-13

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-303 JULY 25, 1998

### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Letting Mercy Rule”

### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only,  
- deceiving yourselves.

**INTRODUCTION:      The Reading of The Text      vv. 10-13**

People have been arguing for years about putting prayer back into the public schools. Personally, I don't think prayer ever left the public school because as long as there are final exams and tests - there'll be prayer!

In fact, the two of the most commonly Prayed Prayers  
by Students Nationwide Go something like this:

“Dear God, 2 things I ask of thee, First, Cause the Teacher to Grade this Test on a Curve and Second Lord, Cause the smartest kid in the class to go brain dead that I might pass this test in the name of our loving savior, amen!

James 2:10-13

For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup> For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

The Lord of all the Earth is Coming Back  
and with Him there will be judgment

2 Timothy 4:1-2 KJV

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ,  
who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;  
<sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

## Because That's True, We Seek a Change in Our lives Don't We?

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--  
<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

2 Corinthians 5:1-2

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house (a body) not made with human hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For in this (tent) we groan, **earnestly desiring** to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,

## I PICKED UP THIS OLD BOOK THIS WEEK

### We Seek a Change Don't We?

But Until Then, We Have to Fight

Students, Listen Up!

The Problem with Partiality

is still the Theme to the Context of Chapter 2

1.) **Truth** is a Witness of God's Existence

vv. 10

For **whoever** shall **keep** the whole law,  
and yet **stumble** in one point, he is **guilty** of all.

*Truth and Partiality*

# Will Never Get Along

James 2:1

My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Lord of glory, with **partiality**.

James 2:4

have you not shown **partiality** among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:9

but if you show **partiality**, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

## Now that James has Gotten Us Weeping in the Corner, Convicted, and Sick - Kicks us!!!

1a.) Why, Because **Truth Cannot be Extinguished**

vv. 10a

For **whoever** shall **keep** the whole law,  
and yet **stumble** in one point, he is **guilty** of all.

**The Bible Teaches us that we are "mark missers"**  
*which produces guilt*

**Because we are "mark missers", we can't sit in judgment on others**  
*O' but I want to... Lord, look at Susie there, she's not walking very well*

### Illustration

You can shoot all day long at the bullseye... and I can stand on the side lines and  
announce to everybody else just how far you've missed the bullseye.

Until it's my turn to shoot - then I become Guilty

**"Guilt free T.V."**  
**on Melrose place**

Internally,

God has given to every man a conscience - it's a package deal.

With human life and existence, comes conscientiousness

**"I am not talking about just**

# any kind of Conscience” my friend

John 1:6-9

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> This man came as a witness, to bear witness of The Light, that all mankind through him might believe. <sup>8</sup> He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. <sup>9</sup> That was the true Light **which gives light to every man** that comes into the world.

“**The Light**” leads us to understanding  
but what’s there to Understand ?

## That God Is... The Struggle Within

See Jesus Christ Came to Reveal the Heart of the Father to Us

What you do with your conscience means everything to you - you just don’t think so

Truth is an Internal Witness of God’s Existence

1b.) Because my Opinions Can't Change a Thing vv. 10b

For whoever shall keep the whole law

\* For **whoever** grk 3748 hostis (hos'-tis);  
it means anybody, everyone, anyone, all of us

I can generate my little theological dictionary  
of what Bible words might mean to me, but God’s Word is Truth

I can talk about how good I am all I want

Truth is an Internal Witness of God’s Existence

1c.) Mankind Cannot Save Himself vv. 10c

and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

\* shall **keep** grk 5083 tereo (tay-reh'-o);  
to guard in a panic by keeping the eye upon; to be watching hard

- \* yet **stumble** grk 4417 ptaio (ptah'-yo);  
to trip, to deviate from the course; to err, sin, fail, stumble over a rock.
- \* is **guilty** grk liable  
the one responsible, the owner of an incident

Romans 3:19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Galatians 3:10-11

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." 11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."

## 2.) God Will not Grade on a Curve

vv. 11

For He (God) 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

### 2a.) Because The Law is God's Gift to Evangelism

vv. 11a

# Do We Know anyone who's Proud?

Have you ever witnessed to a proud man?  
Try telling them that Jesus wants to forgive them of their sins

They will not only laugh, they'll think of you a  
fool for not being able to see how great and  
wonderful they really are in this life

"The Law of God was Never Given to  
See How Good man can Become

# The Law was Given to Show man just How Far Away Man had Gone"

Galatians 3:24-25

Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Until

*we agree with the Lord that we are **Guilty** for our **Mark Missing***

Then He Withholds  
*forgiveness from guilt and shame*

I John 1:8-10

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

## The Fallen Human Nature

it's like telling a blind man, - "Now you look here!"

There is No Greater Illustration to Our Text  
than in John 8

John 8:1-12a

But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup> Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, <sup>4</sup> they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. <sup>5</sup> "Now Moses...in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" <sup>6</sup> This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. <sup>7</sup> So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." <sup>8</sup> And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. <sup>10</sup> When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." <sup>12</sup> Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light of the world...**(Just ask those Guy's who Just Walked away)

Romans 7:9-12

I was alive once (Paul Thought) without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. <sup>10</sup>  
And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. <sup>11</sup> For sin, taking occasion by the  
commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me. <sup>12</sup> Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and  
just and good.

The light came on - and brother, was I a dirty mess

Galatians 2:19-21

"For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup> "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no  
longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of  
God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. <sup>21</sup> "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes  
through the law, then Christ died in vain."

## Here James Sums Up the Importance of Avoiding Favoritism

**3.) There's a Day Coming When all will be Exposed vv. 12**

So speak and so do  
as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.

**3a.) What We Speak, Is What We are to Do vv. 12a**

So speak and so do  
So speak {**be speaking**} and so do {**be doing**}  
because an exam awaits us

### **Speak What?**

Loving, Merciful, Gracious, Edifying Words

### **Do What?**

Loving, Merciful, Gracious, Edifying Things

**The words we use / the deeds we do / the attitudes we take**

Listen

You Cannot Judge My Heart - I Cannot Judge Yours

# But God Knows Both of Us at this Very Hour

Matthew 23:23 ESV

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and **mercy** and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

**"WE ONLY BELIEVE  
AS MUCH OF THE BIBLE AS WE PRACTICE"**

3b.) Because the Christian is Going to be Judged

vv. 12b

As those who will be judged  
by the law of liberty.

**As those who [will be] judged**

as the ones who are about to be judged

We are to speak and to do  
because the judge is about to be seated to render the verdict

Hebrews 4:12-13

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.

I think we often forget this truth  
that pastors are going to be judged, as well as  
missionaries, church workers, evangelists and every born  
again pew potato

**For the Christian only**

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort



it is. <sup>14</sup> If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Romans 14:12

So then each of us shall give **account** of himself to God.

\* yet **stumble** grk 3056 logos (log'-os);  
to give the reasoning or motive; to mouth or to utter words to substantiate

## Verse 12

By the law of liberty

The Implanted Word / The Royal Law / Law of Liberty

To Obey the Word is to discover freedom

**THAT'S WHY I THINK THAT GOSPEL IS SO  
APPEALING TO THE CRIMINAL MIND**

Lawlessness leads to bondage

## 4.) Mercy is to be Our Delight

vv. 13

For judgment is without mercy  
to the one who has shown no mercy.  
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Partiality is the opposite of being  
merciful

## 4a.) Judgment is Reserved for God Alone

vv. 13a

For judgment (from God) is without mercy  
to the one who has shown no mercy

# Because Only He Alone is “Partial” Free and can Judge Rightly

## Abraham Understood God’s Nature

Genesis 18:25

"Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

...I Will spare anyone who Seeks me

4b.) We Need to Humble Ourselves in this Light vv. 13b

To the one who has shown no mercy

## Turn to Matthew 18:21-35

Matthew 5:7

Blessed are the **merciful**, for they shall obtain **mercy**.

\* **merciful** / **mercy** 1653 eleeo (el-eh-eh'-o);  
to have and to show compassion. to place pity upon one another

Colossians 2:13-14

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup> having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

## We Are to be Gratefully Humbled

4c.) We Need to Show Mercy Now vv. 13c

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

## Not Giving What is Deserved

# It's Exactly What Jesus Would Do...

## He Loves to Show Mercy

Psalms 86:5

For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and **abounding in mercy** to all those who call upon You.

Psalms 86:15

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and **abounding in mercy** and truth.

Mark 10:46-49

Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. <sup>47</sup> And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>48</sup> Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>49</sup> So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "**Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you.**"

Matthew 9:35-37

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. <sup>36</sup> But when He saw the multitudes, He was **moved with compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

- \* compassion grk 4698 splagchnon (splangkh'-non);  
**deep mercy.** feeling it to an intestines or bowels, tender mercy or inward affection.

## Do You (I) Love to Show Mercy?

Micah 6:8 KJV

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, **and to love mercy**, and to walk humbly with thy God?

## "triumphs over"

Mercy triumphs over judgment

- \* triumphs over grk 2620 katakauchaomai  
to boast in front of or to brag against what it is put up against, to glory rejoice in the midst of what could be disastrous!

Judgment says; I'm Strong / Mercy O'Yeh - I'm Stronger  
Judgment says; I'm Mighty / Mercy O'Yeh - I'm Mightier  
Judgment says; I'm the Verdict / Mercy O'Yeh - I'm the Judge

1 Corinthians 11:31 NIV

But if we judged ourselves now, we would not come under judgment.

At the Judgment, God Will Pour Out Upon You Mercy  
if you have shown mercy to other down here

**“partiality”**

Places me under judgment

Mercy

Will it be there when I need it the most ?

Martin Luther, the great reformer stated:

“Partiality, Favoritism, and Prejudice spirit is proof positive that such a man is of a Damned Soul and awaits the judgment of God Himself from which he shall neither escape nor see a bit of mercy from the One who would have loved to have granted it”

**Mercy triumphs over judgment**

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God.

**But Lord Have Mercy to  
triumph over judgment**