

# “Just a Bunch of Grasshoppers”

James 2:1-13

December 4, 2016

Four crucial truths concerning people:

1. All people are equally created in God's image. (Genesis 1:26,27)
2. All people are loved by God. (John 3:16)
3. All people are stained by sin. (Romans 3:23)
4. All people are able to be saved from the consequences of sin. (Romans 6:23)

As far as God is concerned, there are only two races:  
the saved race and the lost race.

Two absolute truths:

1. All men are created equal.
2. All men are uniquely different.

Question: What would qualify as favoritism?

Answer: The word means to judge on the basis of outward appearance.

Three warnings concerning the church showing favoritism:

1. Showing favoritism violates the royal law of God. (James 2:8,9)
2. Showing favoritism makes a person guilty of the whole law of God. (James 2:10)
3. Showing favoritism is just as serious a sin as adultery and murder in God's eyes.  
(James 2:11)

James 2:12,13: “*So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.*”

There is good news and bad news in these verses:

1. The good news—those who show mercy will receive mercy.
2. The bad news—those who judge without mercy will be judged without mercy.

*Definition of mercy:* not getting what you deserve.