



August 22, 2010 – Will Mackey

Let's Be Careful How We Evaluate Others! (James 2:1-9)

If we do or do not place value in a person because of his/her outward appearance or social status: (1-3)

1. We have discriminated incorrectly. *"...have you not discriminated among yourselves...?"* (4)
2. We have discriminated using the wrong standard. *"have you not discriminated among yourselves...?"* (4)
3. We have discriminated using evil thoughts/motives. *"...and become judges with evil thoughts?"* (4)
4. We have stood against the will of God for the person we have discriminated against. *"Listen my dear brothers: 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 to those who love him?"* (5)
5. We have insulted and hurt others God loves. *"But you have insulted the poor..."* (6)

6. We have allowed our self-interests to blind us from reality. *"...Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?"* (6b-7)

7. We disobey God's holy law. *"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers."* (8-9)

The way we behave toward people indicates what we really believe about God!