

# **New Hope Sunday School: Study of James**

## **Lesson 8 – Faith and Law - James 2:8-13**

### **The Royal Law**

- What about the law is “royal”? (see James 2:1)
- If we are not under the law, why does James invoke the law?
- When James says “according to the Scripture” what does he mean? (Lev. 19:18,34 Gal 5:14)
- According to Lev. 19:34 and Luke 10:27-37 who is our neighbor?
  - How does this apply to what James is teaching regarding partiality?
  - Based on this verse and the context how should we treat everyone?
- Contrast verses 8 & 9 what is the logical argument they are making?
- In verse 8, James says: “you are doing well” does this mean we are receiving merit for our obedience?
- Does verse 10 mean that there are no distinctions between the individual laws?
- What do verses 9-10 tell us about the character of the law?
- What does verse 10 tell us about the character of God? (Deuteronomy 4:11-15)
- Based on your answer to the previous question, why should we obey the law of God?

### **The Law of Liberty**

- What was the historical context of the giving of the law in the Old Testament?
- What does the preamble to the law tell us about what relationship was between the historical context and the law? (Exodus 20:2)

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- Is the law of liberty different than the law given by Moses?
- What is the distinction between the law of liberty and law of bondage? (Hebrews 10:16&17)
  - What does our salvation give us the liberty to do?
- How should we speak and act based on the law of liberty?

### **Our Faith and Obedience to God's Law**

- How does Mercy triumph over Judgment? (see Psalm 85) (Matthew 18:21-35)
  - How has mercy triumphed over judgment in our lives?
  - Is the mercy here an ignoring of our sin?
- In the context of this passage what is showing mercy referring to?
- Why is James so direct in verse 13?
  - Do we always show mercy?
  - How do we prevent from being overwhelmed by this?
- What is the relationship between our faith and our showing mercy?