Faith & Favoritism
Don’t Mix

April 5, 2017
Faith & Favoritism Don’t Mix

- God Is Not A Respec ter Of Persons

- READ: James 2:1-13

- THEME: Favoritism -- Don’t Show It!
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- **FAVORITISM** = undue and unfair partiality; pandering to someone, because he/she is rich, influential or popular

- Favoritism Causes Divisions

- Favoritism Can Cause Us To Miss Out On God’s Best And Brightest
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- Favoritism Is Unjust In It’s Judging

- Leviticus 19:15 “Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.”
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• (1 Sam 16:6-7 NIV) When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the LORD." (7) But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
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• “You Can’t Judge A Book By Its Cover”
  You Don’t Know What’s Going On Inside A Person (What God is Doing In Them)
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People Judge Others By:

• Appearance
• Ancestry
• Age
• Achievement
• Affluence
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• To See Favoritism From God’s Perspective… We Need To See The Big Picture

• “Don’t Associate Your Favoritism With Our Glorious Jesus Christ.”
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Looking On The Outside Only Is Inconsistent w/ Our Faith:

1. That Is Not What God Is Like
2. That Is Not The Way God Works
3. That Is Not The Way It Is
4. That Is Not The Way Love Operates
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• How I Relate To You Proves How Much I Love God.

How To Avoid Judging A Book By Its Cover:

• 1. Let The Bible Be Your Standard.
• 2. Let Love Be Your Law.
• 3. Let Mercy Be Your Message.
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How To Love People Into Heaven

1. Accept Them
2. Appreciate Them
3. Affirm Them
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• Faith And Favoritism Don’t Mix

• Everyone Has Celebrity Status With God

• Everyone Who Comes Into This Church Should Be Welcomed Equally
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• There Are No Distinctions Within The Church!

• How We Treat Others Reflects Our Relationship To God

• Let This Church Have A Reputation Of Love