



## International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

### **Praying Through James 2:1-13**

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of faith in Jesus Christ that you freely gave to me as I heard the truth of your Word and your Spirit worked in my life. Help me to show by what I do and by what I will not do that my faith in you is true. Help me to see others as people created in your image so I do not show favoritism toward rich or poor. Help me to avoid evil thoughts that might lead me to judge others by appearances. Father, I thank you for all who live rich in faith even though they are poor or despite being wealthy. Rich and poor have different and varied needs at times, meet their needs and give them assurance each day of their place in your kingdom. Fill them with your love and peace even as your love overflows in their lives and enables them to love you and others. Protect the poor from dishonor, oppression, and the dishonesty of others. Lead those who are rich, but not rich toward you, to repent of their sins and treat others right. Give me wisdom to see how I can truly love my neighbor whether rich or poor and keep me from the sin of partiality. Father, I have violated your holy law of love in many ways, forgive me and show me the loving things to say and do in every situation. Fill me with your Spirit that I might fulfill your law of love in the liberty you gave me when you freed me from the law of sin and death. Grant me mercy and forgiveness, O Lord, and help me to show mercy and forgiveness toward others so they can see you and your character in your life lived through me. In Jesus's name and for His sake, I pray. Amen.

**Please Note:** I first learned about “Praying Through the Bible” from Edith Schaeffer, the wife of Francis Schaeffer. You might like to close your class with the above prayer as a way of beginning to teach your class how they too can pray through the Bible. First, you might like to teach your class how to pray through the *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* each week. [Perhaps some of them would learn how to pray through portions of the Bible during their daily Bible reading and quiet time.] Second, a week in advance, perhaps some of your students would like to write their own “Prayer Through the Bible” using the *Verse-by-verse Scripture Handout* and read their prayer at the close of class. Third, eventually, your students will be able to pray through the Bible without needing to write their prayer in advance before they pray at the end of class. If you would like to learn more about prayer from Edith Schaeffer, read [\*How God Teaches Us to Pray: Lessons from the Lives of Francis and Edith Schaeffer\*](#), Kindle Edition, by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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