

Copyright © Simon G. Harris 2014
Scripture quotations taken from the HOLY
BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION.
Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International
Bible Society. Used by permission

FAITH THAT WORKS

twitter: #faiththatworks

@simongharris @burlington_ips

web: burlingtonbaptist.org.uk/faiththatworks

**Who are my
favourites?**

**FAITH
THAT
WORKS**

True Faith

will produce real fruit

James 1:26

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

True Faith

will produce compassion & purity

James 1:27

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Gripped

by our glorious Lord Jesus Christ

James 2:1

**My brothers and sisters, believers in our
glorious Lord Jesus Christ**

Gripped

by our glorious Lord Jesus Christ

James 2:1

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism.

Gripped

by our glorious Lord Jesus Christ

James 2:2-3

Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, 'Here's a good seat for you,' but say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my feet,'

We insult Jesus

1. When we discriminate

James 2:4

... have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts

WHERE do
we Treat
PEOPLE
Differently?

We insult Jesus

2. When we become judge

James 2:4

... have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts

We insult Jesus

2. When we become judge

Proverbs 14:31

**Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt
for their Maker,
but whoever is kind to the needy honours
God.**

We insult Jesus

3. with our evil thoughts

James 2:4

... have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts

A bias to the poor

1. God appoints the poor

James 2:5

Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him?

A bias to the poor

2. God's attention is on the poor

Deuteronomy 15:7

But if there are any poor Israelites in your towns when you arrive in the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tightfisted toward them.

A bias to the poor

2. God's attention is on the poor

Proverbs 19:17

If you help the poor, you are lending to the
Lord—
and he will repay you!

A bias to the poor

2. God's attention is on the poor

Psalm 82:3

**Give justice to the poor and the orphan;
uphold the rights of the oppressed and the
destitute.**

A bias to the poor

2. God's attention is on the poor

Matthew 25:40

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’

A bias to the poor

3. God acts through the poor

Matthew 25:40

...Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord... and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'

A bias to the poor

3. God acts through the poor

1 Corinthians 1:28

God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are,

IS OUR
Church
BIASED
towards
THE
POOR?

A personal calling

‘Look after’

James 1:27

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Is YOUR
Life
biased
towards
THE
POOR?

A personal calling

We are all poor before God

James 2:8

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbour as yourself,' you are doing right.

Mercy triumphs judgment

We are all poor before God

James 2:13b

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Mercy triumphs judgment

We are all poor before God

James 2:12

Speak and act as those who are going to be
judged by the law that gives freedom,

