

# Equal at the Cross

James 2:1-13

*The Book of James*

sky news

LIVE St Paul's Cathedral



**PLATINUM JUBILEE**

Buckingham Palace has said The Queen will not attend the National Service of Thanksgiving after experiencing "some discomfort" yesterday

THE **LAST THING** BEFORE WE GO

**HAVE YOU MET THE QUEEN?**

**MSNBC**  
the **11<sup>th</sup>** Hour

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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,” <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

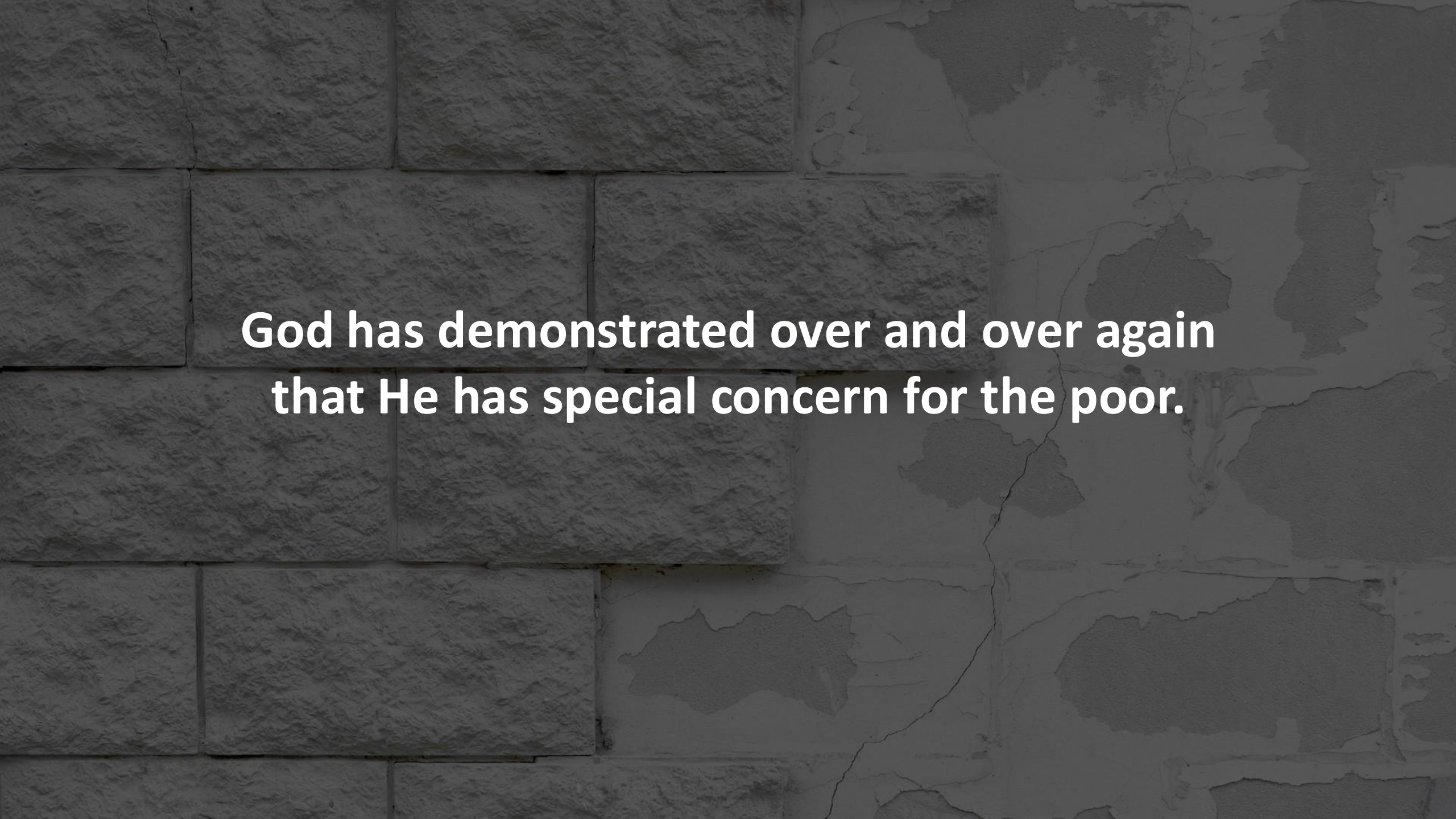
- James 2

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: 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 those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. <sup>9</sup> But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

<sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup> because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: **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 those who love him?** <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?



**God has demonstrated over and over again  
that He has special concern for the poor.**



The background is a dark, monochromatic image. On the left side, there is a grid of rectangular blocks, similar to stone or brickwork. On the right side, the surface appears to be peeling or cracked, with irregular, jagged edges where the top layer has been removed, revealing a slightly different texture underneath. The overall lighting is dim, creating a somber and textured atmosphere.

**God's heart for the poor reminds us that *spiritual* poverty was the starting point for each of us.**

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**Loving our neighbors rightly means that we  
don't consider their credentials before we  
act in concern for them.**

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