



# Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

October 13, 2024

*“James 2: The Royal Law”*

*“You do well when you complete the Royal Rule of the Scriptures: “Love others as you love yourself.” But if you play up to these so-called important people, you go against the Rule and stand convicted by it. You can’t pick and choose in these things, specializing in keeping one or two things in God’s law and ignoring others” (James 2:8-10, The Message)*

In the past I have been involved in “street ministry,” meeting people on the margins of society. I really bristled when one day I heard someone say, “I’m glad to help people who deserve it, but not drunks and deadbeats.” That is not what we hear in James 2!

**The term "royal law"** is in James 2:8, where James writes, “You do well when you complete the Royal Rule of the Scriptures: Love others as you love yourself.” The phrase refers to the commandment found in Leviticus 19:18 to "love your neighbor as yourself," which Jesus affirmed as the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 12:30-31).



**James 2 has three key themes** which teach the practical working of faith keeping the “Royal Rule” in our relationships and actions, key to living an authentic Christian life:

- Avoiding Favoritism (James 2:1-7)
- The Royal Law of Love (James 2:8-13)
- Faith Without Works is Dead (James 2:14-26)

**Notice that these themes intertwine** with “Love others as you love yourself,” as the central, core thread. We avoid showing favoritism because that is how we hope we are treated. Our faith is empty if we believe we shouldn’t show favoritism but allow it to happen or practice it ourselves. It is plain to see how the teaching in James 2 is the bedrock for many values in modern society: equality, justice, and mercy.

---

***Raquette Lake Chapel History***  
***(from “The Raquette Lake Chapel – The First 50 Years”)***  
***How the Chapel Came to Be***

*“In September 1927, after negotiations led by Andrew Nielson, the Huntington family sold a plot of land to the Church of the Lakes for one dollar. The deed, signed by Archer M. Huntington and his wife Anna Hyatt Huntington, stipulated that the property could only be used for religious purposes. [note: that stipulation was removed years later after the Chapel was built.] The current Raquette Lake Chapel building was constructed soon after acquiring the property. John Blanchard served as the contractor, and his son Paul designed the chapel’s distinctive windows. Local community members like Norton Bird and Darius Waldron played key roles in its construction, with the foundation built using stone hauled by Buster Bird’s Model T truck.”*

---

**Prayer Box:** *pray for healing Bill and support for Margo; pray for healing for Holland, Steve, John H., Patti, Florence, and Susan; pray for Justin and his family; pray for those affected by hurricanes Helene and Milton.*

*Lord, hear our prayers!*

[www.raquettelakechapel.org](http://www.raquettelakechapel.org)