

THE



“The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest” (Luke 10:2)

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WITHOUT PREJUDICE OR PARTIALITY

In almost every country today, there is prejudice and partiality. Prejudice is an irrational hostile attitude, fear, or hatred towards a particular group. Prejudice and partiality can be shown towards or against people of a particular race, color, country of origin, or ethnic group. Prejudice and partiality may be shown to men or to women, to the old or to the young, and to the poor or to the rich. If you are different from others in some way, you may be the subject of prejudice and partiality. The apostle Paul was instructing Timothy, and he gave the following charge:

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141 County Road 474
Woodland, AL 36280
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I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality. (1 Tim. 5:21)

Prejudice is not just a modern occurrence; it has been happening for thousands of years. The ancient Egyptians disliked people who were shepherds. Joseph warned his brethren about this in Genesis 46:33-34:

And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, What is your occupation? That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and also our fathers: that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

The Israelites lived in the land of Goshen, which was an area different from where the majority of Egyptians lived, because of the prejudice against them as shepherds. This is not unlike today where there is a ghetto or area where people of some special group live together because they are different in some way.

The Jews in the time of Jesus had no dealings with the Samaritans. When Jesus passed through the region of Samaria, he rested by a well while his disciples went into the village to buy food.

There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. (John 4:7-9)

Jesus went against the common prejudice by speaking with the Samaritan woman. After Jesus' death and resurrection, the first Christians were only Jews. These Jewish Christians had prejudice against Gentiles. The apostle Peter was sent to

convert the Gentile, Cornelius, in Caesarea. When Peter returned to Jerusalem, he was confronted by the other apostles and brethren.

And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him, Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them. (Acts 11:1-3)

When Peter was with Cornelius, he made the following statement:

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. (Acts 10:34-35)

God is not interested in whether a person is of a particular race, color, country of origin, or ethnic group. He is interested in those who fear Him and work righteousness. If God shows no partiality, then you should show no partiality as well.

For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Rom. 10:12-13)

Whoever comes to the Lord from any group will be saved.

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Gal. 3:26-29)

It doesn't matter what race, color, country of origin, ethnic group, gender, or social standing you have. We are all one in Christ Jesus.

It may be common to show partiality to the rich and against the poor.

My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts? Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? (Jas. 2:1-7)

You should treat the rich and poor alike, without partiality.

Love for others should motivate you to discard prejudice and partiality.

If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. (Jas. 2:8-9)

My encouragement is that you conduct your life without prejudice or partiality. All people are valued by God. Whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.

ED ANDERSON
Sierra Vista, AZ

THE HARVESTER is a monthly publication intended to encourage all men everywhere to become laborers into God's harvest (Luke 10:2). This paper is mailed free of charge to anyone who wishes to receive it. Please submit name, address, address changes and all correspondence to:

The Harvester

141 County Road 474 * Woodland, AL 36280

Phone: (256) 449-9221* Email: theharvesteronline@gmail.com

Web Page: www.churches-of-christ.org

NOTES ON PSALM 34

A CALL TO APPROACH GOD WITH HONOR AND RESPECT

(1) *I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

Another way to express this thought would be, “I will praise the Lord no matter what happens.”

Paul restores a psychic which resulted in a charge and arrest (Acts 16:16-24). Paul and Silas were in prison singing at midnight, even though bound. Likely there was wonder among other prisoners. After an earthquake freed the prisoners, the jailor was converted (Acts 16:25-34).

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Eph. 5:20).

(2) *My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.*

Any boast should be “in the Lord;” not because of my ability. This is a trait of the humble.

(3) *O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.*

Appeal for all to “magnify the Lord” and “exalt His name.”

FAVORED RELATIONSHIP OF THOSE WHO TRUST IN GOD

(4) *I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.*

David vs. Goliath (1 Sam. 17). Goliath had a defiant attitude toward God's people. David triumphed in accord with God's presence.

Other situations in David's life: Saul's jealousy and attempt to kill David (1 Sam. 18:7-8; 19:1).

(5) *They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.*

Those who humbly serve the Lord have a radiance which results from their presence before Him; they are filled with confidence.

(6) This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Examples: David before Saul (Ps. 57). Jonah in the belly of the fish (Jon. 2). Hezekiah in bed (2 Ki. 20). Hagar in the wilderness (Gen. 16:7-13; 21:17). Paul and Silas in jail (Acts 16:25). Thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43).

(7) The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

My experience in Africa: once we had a lack of gasoline in our vehicle, but had a necessary appointment. We returned with fuel to spare.

Angels took Lazarus from the loss of this life to the joys of Paradise (Luke 16:19-22).

(8) O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

One day a stranger came upon a boy dipping his finger into a pail of honey and then licking it. The stranger kindly asked, "Oh, is the honey good?" The boy answered, "Yes, sir." The stranger replied, "But, how sweet is it?" Then he again stuck his finger into the pail, removed it, and reaching forth toward the stranger he said, "Taste it and see for yourself."

Who among us can truthfully say that we have not pleasantly tasted the Lord's blessings?

(9) O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

Fear in the sense of awe and wonder at His presence and might.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear.
(1 John 4:18)

(10) The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

ADMONITION TO RESPECT AND OBEY GOD

(11) Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

(12) What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

Who is it that does not seek to be blessed and enjoy life?

Suggestions for reaching that goal of a blessed life:

(13) Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

(14) Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

ASSURANCE OF THE LORD'S PRESENCE WITH THOSE
WHO SERVE HIM

(15) The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

(16) The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

(17) The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

(18) The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

(19) Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

(20) He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.

(21) Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

(22) The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

From the notes of HARRY COBB
(Deceased)

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Where did Moses first meet his future wife?
2. Which judge killed Eglon, King of Moab?
3. What service did Nehemiah perform for King Artaxerxes?

GOSPEL MEETINGS

DATES	PLACE	SPEAKER
October 3 - 6	Rich Hill Casey County, KY	Timothy Lewis, J. D. McDonald, Jerry Burton, & Thad Eubank
October 4 - 6	Valley Valley, AL	Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
October 4 - 6	Delvinta Beattyville, KY	Joe Hill (Hagerhill, KY)
October 6	Antioch Livingston, TN	J. D. McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
October 25 - 27	Loganville Loganville, GA	Joe Hill (Hagerhill, KY)
October 25 - 27	Napoleon Woodland, AL	Tim Eldridge, Edward Herren, & Hunter Bulger

(cont. from pg. 7)

4. What is the “light of the body”?
5. When in prison at what time did Paul and Silas pray and sing to God?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

...and remember last month’s questions?

1. What was man created from?
DUST OF THE GROUND (Gen. 2:7)
2. How many sons did Jacob (Israel) have?
TWELVE (Gen. 35:22)
3. Who said “thy God shall be my God”? RUTH (Ruth 1:16)
4. Jesus asked: “Can the blind lead the....?”
BLIND (Luke 6:39)
5. What are the wages of sin? DEATH (Rom. 6:23)