

# **KNOW GOD : Impartial**

As one considers the characteristics of God, they begin to know Him in a more personal way. In this series of articles on knowing God, we have made an effort to look closely at the qualities of the one true God of heaven that we all might get to know Him better. It is important to know God as the book of Job 18:21 states, "Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him who does not know God." If you do not know the one true God of heaven, get to know Him today.

In our last article we considered that God is faithful and has been there for His people throughout every generation. Today we want to examine the impartiality of God. The Bible says in Deuteronomy 10:17 "For the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe." We see the impartiality of God in many ways, whether through blessings, care or concern etc. God loves every soul that has been made by His hand on an equal plain. Let us consider the many ways in which our God shows no partiality and be thankful that He provides all people the opportunity to be saved and have a home with Him in eternity, when this life is over.

## **GOD IS IMPARTIAL**

One of the most encouraging characteristics about our God is that God never takes sides with people, but is rather impartial to all, hoping that we will take sides with Him. Even from times of old God has called His people to fear Him and realize the need for continuing in His righteousness. In II Chronicles 19:7 we read, "Now then let the fear of the LORD be upon you; be very careful what you do, for the LORD our God will have no part in unrighteousness or partiality or the taking of a bribe." God is not interested in reputations as if to find the best people, the wealthy, as if to take a bribe from the rich, but rather He is solely interested in those that want to serve Him.

God has done so much for us and yet we are so undeserving of any of His blessings. Listen to Paul as He wrote concerning God's tender care for all in the midst of our unrighteousness, "Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. {There will be} tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God" (Romans 2:4-11). While some may look at this passage and see some form of partiality (those who are saved and those who are lost), when one takes an honest look at this text it becomes obvious that there is no partiality with God. Notice how Paul began with the riches of

God's kindness and tolerance and patience, and then suggests that these should lead to repentance in those who are sinful. God then has been impartial with His goodness and love toward all people, yet if we choose not to repent, then our holy and Divine heavenly Father has no choice but to punish the wicked and give life to the faithful. God is going to give us our righteous judgment based on what we have done to glorify and magnify Him in our lifetime. Peter echoes this concept in Acts 10:34-35, when He said, "I most certainly understand {now} that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him." Are you fearing God and doing what is right in His sight?

Those who think that they will enter God's heaven based on their good reputation, are sadly misunderstanding the message of the gospel. Paul said of one group in Galatians 2:6, "But from those who were of high reputation (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality) -- well, those who were of reputation contributed nothing to me." If you have a name that you are good and yet you do not serve God, your good name is not good at all in the sight of God. As we live our lives, we need to constantly remind ourselves of the need of being pleasing to the Lord in all that we do. Paul said in Ephesians 6:5-9, "Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; not by way of eye service, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free. And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him." Those who tend to have power, often think that they have an advantage over the weak. The rich often feel the same way about the poor. Yet as we step back and see things from a larger spectrum, we learn quickly that all is vanity if we do not recognize that we all have one Master in heaven. Everything that we do should be in full dedicated service to the Lord. It is written in Colossians 3:23-25, "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality." Instead of always trying to please men, we need to turn our focus to pleasing our God who is ready to give us the inheritance. Peter recorded the following words in I Pet 1:17-21, "If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay {on earth;} knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, {the blood} of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God."

I want to ask you a few important question. Is your faith and hope in God today? Do you realize that God has not accepted money as a bribe for your salvation, but has rather given His own Son to bleed, suffer, and die for your sins? Are you willing, today,

to see that God without partiality is calling you to His service in this life and then to His glory when this life is over? If we can be of any assistance to you in taking these important steps toward knowing God, please contact us.