

“Partiality Poison”

Isaac (Part 8)

“Honor everyone...” (1 Peter 2:17)

Preferential Treatment

Genesis 25:24-28 – (24) “When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. (25) The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. (26) Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau’s heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. (27) When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. (28) Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.”

Genesis 37:3-4 – (3) “Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. (4) But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.”

<h3>Partiality Prevents the Preconditions for Peace</h3>

The Practice of the Unjust Judges

James 2:1-4 – (1) “My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. (2) For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, (3) and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, ‘You sit here in a good place,’ while you say to the poor man, ‘You stand over there,’ or, ‘Sit down at my feet,’ (4) have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?”

1 Corinthians 1:12, 3:4-5 – (12) “What I mean is that each one of you says, ‘I follow Paul,’ or ‘I follow Apollos,’ or ‘I follow Cephas,’ or ‘I follow Christ.’ (4) For when one says, ‘I follow Paul,’ and another, ‘I follow Apollos,’ are you not being merely human? (5) What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each.”

The Practice of the True Judge

(1) Equal Love

John 13:1-5 – (1) “Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. (2) During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him, (3) Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, (4) rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. (5) Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.”

(2) Equal Standing in God

Acts 15:8-11 – (8) “And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, (9) and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. (10) Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? (11) But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

Proper Partiality

“Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood...” (1 Peter 2:17)

“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10)

Respect for Authority & Recognition of Equality

“And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me.” (Galatians 2:6)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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