

Impartiality in Service

Oct 15, 2017

Impartial:

- a. To be unbiased or just
- b. Treating all fairly and equally



A critical part of the service is to be impartial with the students and other servants.

Partiality creates division, disharmony, and discontent with others in the service.



A person can show partiality for many reasons:

- a. Race
- b. Social stature
- c. Religion
- d. Politics
- e. Looks, intelligence, wealth, etc. ...

Partiality is the sin of judging outward circumstances, and not inward merit.

Never:

1. Show favoritism to anyone
2. Be unreasonably tough on anyone in specific
3. Story of hugging
4. Story of leader



Must be completely balanced in the treatment of all. Which requires some virtues.



Characteristics of an Impartial Servant:

1. Spiritually Mature
2. Able to use wisdom
3. Seeks unity and oneness
4. His decisions and actions are guided by the Holy Spirit

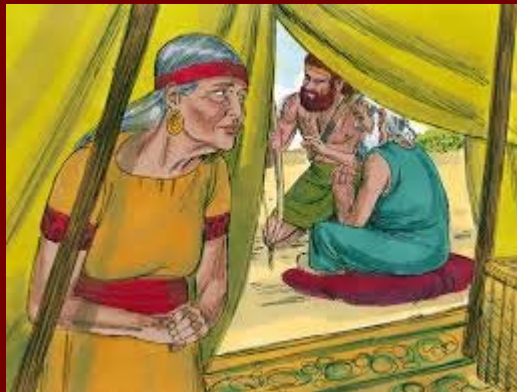
To be impartial, look at:

- a. The heart of the person
- b. The conduct of the person
- c. Not the outside

*“For the LORD does not see as man sees;
for man looks at the outward
appearance, but the LORD looks at the
heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7)*



- Examples in the Holy Bible:
- First Example: Isaac (towards Esau) and Rebecca (towards Jacob) instilled a spirit of competition, strife, and resentment between the two brothers that led to an ongoing feud, more than 3,500 years

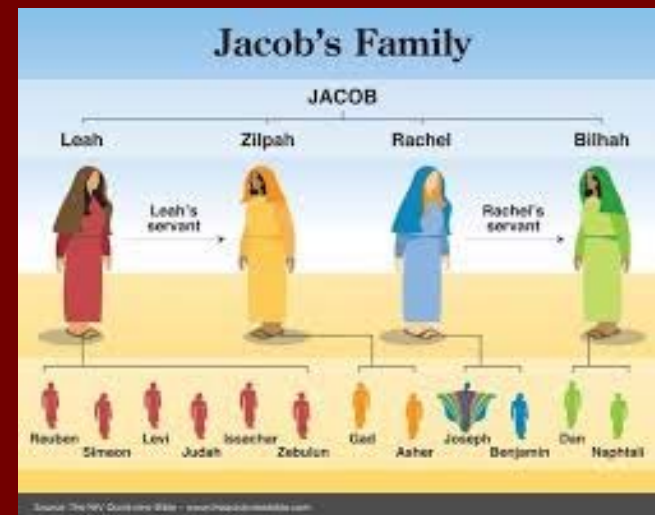
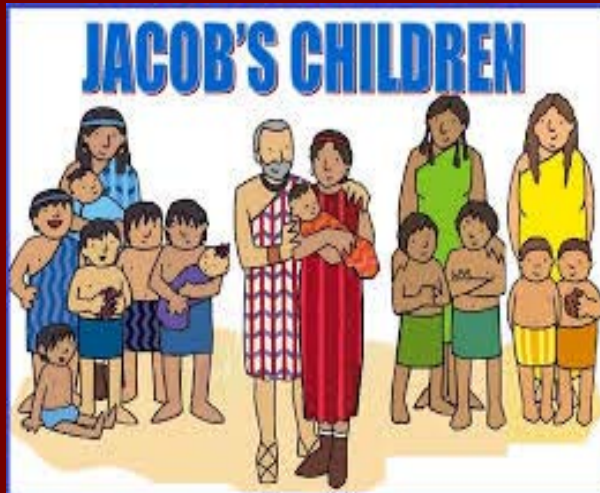


“And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob.” (Gen 25:28)

Second Example:

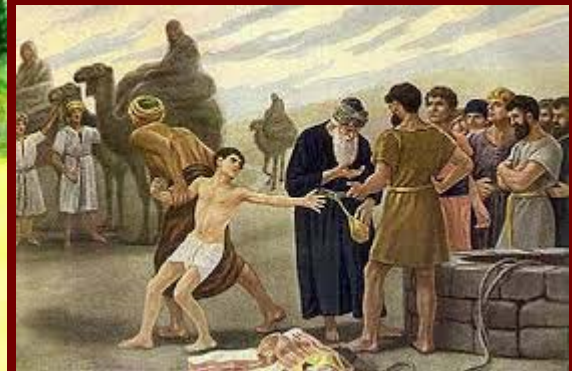
Hint: Bilhah and Zilpha

Jacob's partiality to Rachel was the source of a great deal of hostility and scheming among Jacobs's wives and concubines (see Genesis 30). This also created rivalries between their sons.



“And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.” (Gen 29:30)

Third Example: Jacob's favoritism for Joseph made his half-brothers so jealous that they were ready to murder him. Instead, they "only" sold him into slavery, telling their father that he had been torn to pieces by a wild beast. This caused the patriarch no end of grief.



- Genesis 37:4-5

- “And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him. And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.”



Fourth Example:

Because of his partiality as a father, Eli allowed himself to become complacent to the gross sins of his two sons (see 1 Samuel Chapters 2 to 4). This led both to calamity for Eli's house and national defeat at the hands of the Philistines.



Fifth Example:

King David's partiality blinded his eyes to his children's evil actions, Amnon's rape of his half-sister, Tamar; Absalom's murder of Amnon and his rebellion against David himself (see 2 Samuel Chapters 13 to 18). Later, he ignored Adonijah's preparations to take over his throne, in spite of his expressed desire to have Solomon succeed him (see 1 Kings 1)



There is a fine line between being impartial and being fair.

Ex: God's dealing with Cain and Abel



God teaching someone a lesson in partiality

Acts Chapter 10: St. Peter vision of eating all the four footed animals, teaching him that preaching is for both Jews and Gentiles.

He then preached and baptized Cornelius and his family.



God is always impartial:

Four Verses from the Holy Bible on Partiality

“But from those who seemed to be something—whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; **God shows personal favoritism to no man**—for those who seemed *to be something* added nothing to me.” (Galatians 2:6)

“but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹¹ For there is no **partiality** with God.” (Romans 2:10-11)

St. Paul speaking to Timothy:

“I charge *you* before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with **partiality**.” (1Timothy 5:21)

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, **without partiality**, and without hypocrisy.” (James 3:17)

Questions to ask yourself?

1. Am I fair and consistent with everyone?
2. Am I willing to do the same service for everyone in my class?
3. Do I treat everyone with the same attention, love, and respect?
4. Do I tend to favor the “good” kids or “popular” kids?
5. Do I give the same type of service to the “hard”, “not popular”, and “troubled kids”?
6. Do I apply the same rules, sets, and regulations to everyone?

Steps toward partiality?

1. Pray to God and ask for wisdom.
2. Pray for an alert conscience.
3. Constantly examine your actions toward others.
4. Strive for unity and obedience in the service
5. Maintain an attitude of inclusiveness and never exclusiveness.

IN SUMMARY:

Partiality is not an attribute of God and it cannot exist in our service either.

Glory to God forever.