

IS GOD PARTIAL?

Sylvester Onyemalechi

Many have said that God is partial because they cannot comprehend why some people will be succeeding and others are not, some will be healthy and others sickly; some will be advancing while others are struggling. Life seems complicated, and the only conclusion is that God is partial. This notion has made many to be undecided about committing their lives to God. It has developed in those who hold to this belief a negative attitude to God and life. May be you have thought or said the same yourself. But, what does the scripture really say? Is God partial?

Let the scriptures answer this age long question. Please take time to look at these scriptures.

Deut 32:4

4 He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

NIV

Neh 9:33

33 In all that has happened to us, you have been just; you have acted faithfully, while we did wrong.

NIV

James 3:17

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

NIV

Acts 10:34-35

34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism 35 but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.

NIV

1 Tim 5:21

21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

NIV

These scriptures reveal that God is not partial and never encourages anyone to be partial. He is a just and righteous God who never practices or encourages favoritism. But because man finds it difficult to comprehend the ways of God, we conclude that he is partial. The following will help you understand why it appears as if God favors some more than others.

- 1. God operates and deals with people on the basis of a covenant.**

He is bound first to His covenant people. On the basis of a covenant, Israel became God's first born son – the leading nation in the world.

Ex 4:22

*22 Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son,
NIV*

Gen 12:1-3

12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

NIV

Based on this covenant relationship, Israel receives more attention from God than any other nation.

The way God will relate with someone in covenant relationship with Him is not the way He will relate with someone who is not interested or in covenant relationship with Him. Christianity is a covenant relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Tithing and giving is a covenant relationship that guarantees open heavens, power to generate wealth, divine partnership and abundance.

Living in accordance with the scriptures is walking in the covenant.

2. God is faithful to those who are faithful to Him.

Acts 10:34-35

34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism 35 but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.

NIV

Ps 31:23

23 Love the LORD, all his saints! The LORD preserves the faithful, but the proud he pays back in full.

NIV

Ps 18:25-26

*25 To the faithful you show yourself faithful,
to the blameless you show yourself blameless,
26 to the pure you show yourself pure,
but to the crooked you show yourself shrewd.*

NIV

Ex 20:6

6 but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments.

NIV

John 14:21

21 Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

NIV

He is just.

3. God draws nearer to those who draw near to Him.

He gives special attention to those who put their trust in Him and dwell in His presence. We do not all serve, submit and obey God the same way, so we cannot all expect the same measure of blessing and favor.

James 4:8

8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

NIV

John 21:20-24

20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") 21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" 22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me." 23 Because of this, the rumor spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?" 24 This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

NIV

If you make time for God, God will make time for you. If you have room in your heart for God, He will have room for you in His heart. The hunger for God in your heart pulls God towards you. If there is a longing in you for God, your case will definitely be different from that of others whose hearts are cold towards God and His concerns.

4. Every man is born to fulfill a particular purpose in life.

Your call determines your gift and experience. We are all called differently, and God deals with us and make things happen in our lives based on what we are called to do in life.

Jer 1:4-5

4 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

NIV

Rom 11:29

29 for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

NIV

Things happen in your life based on what God has called and wired you to do for Him or achieve in life. The financial experience of a man called to carry out a multi-billion Naira project and positively affect thousands in his life time will definitely not be the same with that of a man called to just raise his family and influence a few people in his life time. Your assignment determines your experience in life.

Conclusion

An understanding of these four points will help you relate well with God so you will be at peace with God and yourself, and live your life in such a way that you will gain God's maximum support and prosper in life and all your pursuits.

Always remember:

1. God operates and deals with people on the basis of a covenant.
 - So be faithful to your covenant relationship with God. If you keep your part, God will keep His part. God is a covenant keeper.
 - He will never violate His covenant (Ps 89:34)
 - He will never forget His covenant. (Deut 4:31)
 - He will never break His covenant. (Judges 2:1)
2. God is faithful to those who are faithful to Him.
3. God draws nearer to those who draw near to Him.
4. Every man is born to fulfill a particular purpose in life.

May the peace of God keep your heart as you relate with Him with understanding.