

SERIES: God Is
SERMON #8: "God Is Impartial"
TEXT: Acts 10:34; Deut. 10:17; 2 Chron. 19:7
DATE: July 22, 2018

Partiality

([prosopolepsia](#) [prosopolempsia] from **prósopon** = face, presence, person + **lambáno** = receive, take into account) literally means to "receive face" or receive one's countenance or one's person which was a Hebraic concept. The idea is that of looking to see who someone is before deciding how to treat them. In other words, one judges by appearance and on that basis giving special favor and respect (or the converse - refuses to give respect). This noun then pertains to judging others purely on a superficial level, without consideration of the person's true merits, abilities, or character.

The Oriental custom of greeting was to bow one's face to the ground. If the one greeted accepted the person, he was allowed to lift his head again. The accepting of the appearance of a person was a Hebraic term for "partiality". To reiterate, the meaning of **prosopolepsia** is to judge another on the basis of externals or pre-conceived notions, and thereby demonstrate partiality or favoritism. In short, it means to make unjust distinctions between people by treating one person better than another.

Now, to declare that God is impartial, is to take all the we just stated about the word partiality and declare that is not how God operates.

Can you recall a time when you were treated unfairly because of your appearance or background? Have you in turn ever treated someone else unfairly because of their appearance or background? Isn't it a wonderful thing that as Romans 2:11 states, "there is no partiality with God." He is impartial. Outward appearance, wealth, culture, social position, family background, education, beauty, intellect, all things that more or less sway the opinions of man, do not count with God when it comes to appraising a person's character or worthiness.

To keep up with Nate's journey to Zimbabwe, you can do a facebook search for the group called "when God calls a farmer" and request to join.