

## The Pivot Point (continued)

says God shows no partiality and is no respecter of persons. Partiality means to be biased, inclined to favor one party over another. Peter's perception and thinking was supernaturally changed to line up with God's perception and thinking. My question today, to you, is this. Does your perceptions and thoughts line up with God's? Ponder these next few verses:

Galatians 3:28 There is [now no distinction] neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 <sup>12</sup>For just as the body is a unity and yet has many parts, and all the parts, though many, form [only] one body, so it is with Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). <sup>13</sup>For by [means of the personal agency of] one [Holy] Spirit we were all, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, baptized [and by baptism united together] into one body, and all made to drink of one [Holy] Spirit.

If you favor one person, one group, over any other you are not lining up with God's thoughts or ways. Do you look down on others because of: race, belief, gender, finances, weight, job rankings, political party, nationality and any other thing? These are walls of division and James says they are sin in James 2:9-10 – <sup>9</sup>But if you show servile regard (prejudice, favoritism) for people, you commit sin and are rebuked *and* convicted by the Law as violators *and* offenders. <sup>10</sup>For whosoever keeps the Law [as a] whole but stumbles *and* offends in one [single instance] has become guilty of [breaking] all of it."

We are to be united as one in Christ, walking in the love of God. Repent of your prejudices, there is no room for them in the body of Christ. He is coming back for a bride without spot or wrinkle. God's heart and plan has always been for all people and all nations to know Him, the one true God. Selah



### Prayer to Invite the Holy Spirit's Help

Holy Spirit, the Bible tells me that you are my Helper. I need your help now to show my heart when I am showing favoritism, when I am operating out of my own bias, where I may be a cause of divisions and when I am looking down on any other human being that Jesus sacrificed Himself for. I do not want that in my heart. Please convict me of this sin in all areas of my life. Help me to learn to love as Jesus did. As my helper and my teacher, I turn to you. I ask you to bring a permanent deliverance to me, to my wrong attitudes. Father, God, I thank you for sending Jesus and that He died to cleanse me of all sin. Thank you Jesus for your sacrifice at Calvary. Help me to treat others with equality, as you do. Thank you my Father for your everlasting love. Thank you Holy Spirit for your help in this matter. Amen

The Holy Spirit cares about every aspect of our lives – the good, the bad and the ugly. God does not want you to carry burdens as 1 Peter 5:7 tells us: “Casting all your care on Him for He cares for you.” Unlike the quote “God helps those who help themselves” which is not in the bible but quoted by Benjamin Franklin, we are to rely on the Holy Spirit. God wants us to look to Him, especially in uncertain times. To trust him. To enjoy a personal relationship with Him. To ask Him for help. To be real. I love the story in Mark 9 when a father brought his mute demon-possessed son to Jesus. Jesus told the father if he could believe, all things are possible to him who believes. Then in verse 24, the father cried out “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” The man recognized he needed help that only Jesus could give, and Jesus wasn't fazed by it, and healed his son. What an amazing Savior we have!

In Ephesians 2:18, God establishes that through Jesus we have access by one Spirit to the Father. But sometimes in our zeal, we get ahead of the Holy Spirit, and God wants us to rest in His promises, which are based on Him, not us. God may want to speak with us, and in rushing to always do, do, do, we may miss what God is saying. Jesus spoke about this in Luke 10:38-42 when Martha was complaining she was left alone to serve, and her sister Mary sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. Jesus said that Mary chose that good part which will not be taken away from her. In Matthew 17, when Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. Peter immediately jumped ahead of the Holy Spirit and wanted to make three tabernacles: one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. But Peter, in his haste, was lowering Jesus to the level of Moses and Elijah, when Jesus – the gift of righteousness – was being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets. God spoke to Peter, James and John and said: “This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”

Whatever we need personal help with – answers, understanding, wisdom, deliverance, strength, comfort - whatever the circumstance, we can “hear Him.” The Holy Spirit wants us to know the love of Christ and be filled with all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:16-19). We only need to ask and look up: “I will lift my eyes to the hills – from whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord Who made heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1-2).

