

**From the Pastor:**

In James 2 the next passage (James 2:1-13) contains a lengthy discourse on godly principles concerning judgment. We will examine this passage in segments. The first segment is found in James 2:1-4. It reads:

“My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, ‘You sit here in a good place,’ and say to the poor man, ‘You stand there,’ or, ‘Sit here at my footstool,’ have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?”

This is a common trait of human nature—i.e. something that is common to most people—making judgments about people based solely on outward appearance. This is specifically what James is discussing in the passage. “Partiality” in this passage is translated from the Greek word *prosopolepsia*. *Prosopolepsia* literally means to take or select based on one’s face. The root word of *prosopolepsia* is *prosopon* which is the Greek word for face.

First impressions are usually based on appearance (if a person has not said or done anything yet in our presence). If a person has spoken or exhibited their conduct in our presence, our first impressions will be formed by those words or acts of that individual. However, the appearance (or, even the words or acts—for those may be put on instead of a reflection of the true self) of an individual may belie what is truly in the inner man.

Good appearance unless it comes from actual character of heart can be deceiving. People going in on job interviews are told to “dress for success.” But, unless their appearance accurately reflects their good character that is deception. Good appearance may or may not tell us much about a person’s character.

James is pointing out that a rich man can have poor character. A poor man may have good character. The outward appearance does not reveal this.

Remember this is what God said to Samuel when God sent him to find a replacement for Saul as the king of Israel. 1 Samuel 16:6-7 records of Samuel’s search:

“So it was, when they came [the sons of Jesse], that he looked at Eliab and said, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is before Him.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’”

Before making decisions or judgments about others, get to really know them. See how they conduct themselves in many situations over time. Time generally will reveal the true nature of an individual. One’s true character will eventually surface.

	<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>	<b>Harlingen</b>
Sunset Today in:	5:35pm	5:39m	5:44pm
Sunset Friday 12-28	5:39pm	5:42pm	5:47pm

# Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



December 22, 2018

## Victoria

*Sermon:* DVD

## Corpus Christi

*Sermonette:* DVD  
*Sermon:* Steve Moody

## Harlingen

*Sermonette:* Orlando Mascorro  
*Sermon:* DVD

“When a man’s ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with Him.”

Proverbs 16:7

## Announcements and Schedule

<b>Sabbath 12/22</b>	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, Harlingen, and Victoria. San Antonio will meet at 1:30 p.m. for the live broadcast from the Winter Family Weekend (WFW).
<b>Sabbath 12/29</b>	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria. Mr. Hendren will be in San Antonio Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

### **Winter Camp:**

Camp will run from Wednesday, Dec. 26, to Tuesday, Jan. 1. For more information, please visit the COGWA Youth Camps website: [camps.cogwa.org](http://camps.cogwa.org).

### **Winter Family Weekend:**

Friday evening, December 21 through Tuesday night, December 25 in Louisville, KY.

### **Regional Teen Formal: March 2, 2019 - Springtime in Tokyo**

There's a grand event in the making, and we hope you plan to come! Please register now; don't wait or you might be late! The Sabbath service will be held at 1 PM at our normal meeting location, Unity of Dallas, but the dinner and dance will take place at a new location this year: The Westin Stonebriar Hotel & Golf Club in Frisco. All teens: Go to <http://www.cogwadallas.org/teens> to register for the dinner and dance. Also, PARENTS, if you have a graduating senior in your family, please refer to the senior questionnaire link at the website for the senior acknowledgements that evening. REGISTER ASAP - Registration deadline is February 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Hansen at [rachel.hansen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rachel.hansen@sbcglobal.net).

## Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

**San Antonio Pot Luck:** The next potluck will be February 2. There will be no potluck in January.

**Victoria Bible Study and Potluck:** Sabbath, December 29. Please send by email any questions you may want addressed. Or, you can give them to Mr. Tucker and he will email them to me.

**Corpus Christi** - 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Goose Island State Park Campout. February 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>.