

Things For Which Peter Was to Be Blamed

Gal. 2:11-13

Introduction:

- A. Peter was a great man — an apostle, a preacher, and an elder.
- B. Peter sometimes did things that were blameworthy.
- C. Peter was to be blamed for three things in our text:

Discussion:

I. Partiality.

- A. Peter had a hard time overcoming racism and nationalism.
 - 1. Had earlier learned the principle (Acts 10:34-35).
 - 2. Still found it difficult to apply.
- B. Partiality has no place among God's people.
 - 1. In preaching gospel to the world (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15, 16).
 - 2. In dealing with one another. (3:26-28; Jas. 2:1-9).

II. Hypocrisy.

- A. Peter was “hypocritical” rather than “straightforward” (v. 13,14).
- B. Hypocrisy has no place among God's people.
 - 1. Jesus sharpest words against hypocrisy. (Matt. 23:23ff;)
 - 2. Our faith in God must not be hypocritical (1 Tim. 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:5)
 - 3. Our love for one another must not be hypocritical (Rom. 12:9; 1 Pet. 1:22).

III. Cowardice.

- A. Peter “caved in” under pressure (v. 12; cf. Matt. 26:69-75).
- B. Moral courage is the need of the hour among Christians.
 - 1. The courage to form scriptural convictions under pressure (cf. John 9:18-23)
 - 2. The courage to stand by your scriptural convictions under pressure (Acts 5:27-29).
 - 3. The courage to stand by your faithful brethren under pressure (2 Tim. 4:16).

Conclusion:

- A. Let us learn from the mistakes of good men, as well as their accomplishments.
- B. Let us stand for the right without hypocrisy or apology — without fear or favor of man.