

The Problem of Partiality, Part II

James 2:1-13

3 Ways Partiality Offends God

Being a member of Plainfield Bible Church is really about being part of a family. All members are disciples of Jesus, unified by their identity in Christ. This unity is expressed in the way they collaborate in loving God, loving fellow Christians, and loving non-Christians. Members who enter into a covenant with their local church are called to a higher degree of responsibility and service.

- PBC Membership Covenant

With all humility and gentleness,
with patience, showing tolerance
for one another in love, being
diligent to preserve the unity of
the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- Ephesians 4:2-3

My brothers, show no partiality as
you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus
Christ, the Lord of glory.

- James 2:1 (ESV)

A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another, even as
I have loved you, that you also love
one another. By this all men will
know that you are My disciples, if
you have love for one another.

- John 13:34-35

(Based Upon)

I) Character of God.

For there is no partiality with God.
For all who have sinned without
the Law will also perish without
the Law, and all who have sinned
under the Law will be judged by
the Law;

- Romans 2:11-12

For the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe. He executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and shows His love for the alien by giving him food and clothing.

-Deuteronomy 10:17-18

Opening his mouth, Peter said:

“I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.”

- Acts 10:34-35

(Based Upon)

I) Character of God.

Partiality is incompatible
with the faith because it is
incompatible with God.

(Based Upon)

II) Care of God.

He who oppresses the poor taunts
his Maker,
But he who is gracious to the
needy honors Him.

- Proverbs 14:31

He who mocks the poor taunts his
Maker;

- Proverbs 17:5(a)

‘Now when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the stranger. I am the LORD your God.

- Leviticus 19:9-10

It was the simple fact that the gospel offered so much to the poor, and demanded so much from the rich, that it was the poor who were swept into the Church. It was, in fact, the ordinary people who heard Jesus gladly and the rich young ruler who went sorrowfully away because he had great possessions. James is not shutting the door on the rich – far from it. He is saying that the gospel of Christ is especially dear to the poor and that in it there is a welcome for those who have no one to welcome them, and that through it there is a value set on those whom the world regards as valueless.

- Barclay

(Based Upon)

II) Care of God.

Partiality against hurting
people is particularly
offensive to God.

(Based Upon)

III) Law of God.

Stumble in one, Guilty of
all!