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.
   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.