



RECONCILED





RECONCILING RICH AND POOR

JAMES 1:9-10; 2:1-17.





BIG IDEA: RECONCILIATION BETWEEN RICH AND POOR IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH CHRIST.





I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR
IN CHRIST.

III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

CREATION: FLOURISHING, NO POVERTY.

FALL: SIN, POVERTY: MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL.

REDEMPTION:

“ALREADY”- SPIRITUALLY RICH.

“NOT YET”- MATERIAL WEALTH.



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

DEUT. 10:17-18 . FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS THE GOD OF GODS AND LORD OF LORDS. HE IS THE GREAT GOD, THE MIGHTY AND AWESOME GOD, WHO SHOWS NO PARTIALITY AND CANNOT BE BRIBED. HE ENSURES THAT ORPHANS AND WIDOWS RECEIVE JUSTICE. HE SHOWS LOVE TO THE FOREIGNERS LIVING AMONG YOU AND GIVES THEM FOOD AND CLOTHING.



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

DEUT. 15:4-8. THERE SHOULD BE NO POOR AMONG YOU, FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL GREATLY BLESS YOU IN THE LAND HE IS GIVING YOU AS A SPECIAL POSSESSION... BUT IF THERE ARE ANY POOR ISRAELITES IN YOUR TOWNS WHEN YOU ARRIVE IN THE LAND...DO NOT BE HARD-HEARTED OR TIGHTFISTED TOWARD THEM. INSTEAD, BE GENEROUS AND LEND THEM WHATEVER THEY NEED.



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

PSALM 146:7-9. HE GIVES JUSTICE TO THE OPPRESSED AND FOOD TO THE HUNGRY. THE LORD FREES THE PRISONERS. THE LORD OPENS THE EYES OF THE BLIND. THE LORD LIFTS UP THOSE WHO ARE WEIGHED DOWN. THE LORD LOVES THE GODLY. THE LORD PROTECTS THE FOREIGNERS AMONG US. HE CARES FOR THE ORPHANS AND WIDOWS, BUT HE FRUSTRATES THE PLANS OF THE WICKED.



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

*PROV. 14:31. THOSE WHO OPPRESS THE POOR
INSULT THEIR MAKER, BUT HELPING THE POOR
HONORS HIM.*



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

*PROV. 21:13. WHOEVER CLOSES HIS EAR TO THE
CRY OF THE POOR WILL HIMSELF CALL OUT AND NOT
BE ANSWERED.*



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

*LUKE 4:18. THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,
BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM GOOD
NEWS TO THE POOR.*



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

LUKE 6:30. GIVE TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU.

*LUKE 14:13. WHEN YOU GIVE A FEAST INVITE THE POOR, THE CRIPPLES,
THE LAME, THE BLIND...*



I. GOD'S HEART FOR THE POOR.

*GAL. 2:10. ONLY, THEY ASKED US TO REMEMBER
THE POOR, THE VERY THING I WAS EAGER TO DO.*





II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR IN CHRIST.





II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR IN CHRIST.

JAMES 1:9-10. LET THE LOWLY BROTHER BOAST IN HIS EXALTATION,¹⁰ AND THE RICH IN HIS HUMILIATION, BECAUSE LIKE A FLOWER OF THE GRASS HE WILL PASS AWAY.

BOASTING IN OUR SITUATION IS REPLACED WITH BOASTING IN CHRIST.





II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR IN CHRIST.

JAMES 2:1 MY BROTHERS, SHOW NO PARTIALITY AS YOU HOLD THE FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LORD OF GLORY.

THE GOSPEL REMOVES ALL PARTIALITY BY MAKING CHRIST MY GLORY-
NOT POVERTY OR WEALTH.



II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR IN CHRIST.

JAMES 2:4 HAVE YOU NOT THEN MADE DISTINCTIONS AMONG YOURSELVES AND BECOME JUDGES WITH EVIL THOUGHTS.

THE GOSPEL PUTS US ALL ON EQUAL GROUND- JUDGMENT VIOLATES
GOD'S HEART.



II. THE GOSPEL UNIFIES THE RICH AND POOR IN CHRIST.

JAMES 2:8-9. IF YOU REALLY FULFILL THE ROYAL LAW ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURE, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," YOU ARE DOING WELL.⁹ BUT IF YOU SHOW PARTIALITY, YOU ARE COMMITTING SIN AND ARE CONVICTED BY THE LAW AS TRANSGRESSORS.

THE GOSPEL ALLOWS US TO OBEY THE LAW OF LOVE AND LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.





III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF CHRIST.

*THOUGH HE WAS RICH, YET FOR YOUR SAKE
HE BECAME POOR*



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF OURSELVES.

WHAT IS OUR BOAST?

*JAMES 1:9-10. LET THE LOWLY BROTHER BOAST IN HIS EXALTATION,
10 AND THE RICH IN HIS HUMILIATION*





PHILIPPIANS 4:12-13 (NLT) I KNOW HOW TO LIVE ON ALMOST NOTHING OR WITH EVERYTHING. I HAVE LEARNED THE SECRET OF LIVING IN EVERY SITUATION, WHETHER IT IS WITH A FULL STOMACH OR EMPTY, WITH PLENTY OR LITTLE. ¹³ FOR I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH CHRIST, WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH.





III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF OURSELVES.

WE NEED MERCY NOT JUDGMENT?

JAMES 2:13. FOR JUDGMENT IS WITHOUT MERCY TO ONE WHO HAS SHOWN NO MERCY. MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT.





III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF THE RICH AND POOR.

POVERTY AND WEALTH ALONE DO NOT DETERMINE ONE'S SPIRITUAL STANDING OR FAITH- SO DON'T JUDGE!





III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF THE AGE (“ALREADY BUT NOT YET”).

“ALREADY” - HELPING THE POOR IS A MANIFESTATION OF THE
KINGDOM (“THY KINGDOM COME”).





1 JOHN 3:16-18. BY THIS WE KNOW LOVE, THAT HE LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US, AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR THE BROTHERS. ¹⁷ BUT IF ANYONE HAS THE WORLD'S GOODS AND SEES HIS BROTHER IN NEED, YET CLOSES HIS HEART AGAINST HIM, HOW DOES GOD'S LOVE ABIDE IN HIM? ¹⁸ LITTLE CHILDREN, LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD OR TALK BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH.





III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF THE AGE (“ALREADY BUT NOT YET”).

“NOT YET” - WE WILL NOT ERADICATE POVERTY- ONLY JESUS WILL AT
HIS RETURN.

“THE POOR YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE WITH YOU.”



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III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF THE CAUSE OF POVERTY.

POVERTY IS CAUSED BOTH BY PERSONAL SIN AND
SYSTEMIC INJUSTICE.



PROV. 13:21. POVERTY PURSUES THE SINNER, BUT PROSPERITY IS THE REWARD OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

PROV. 13:23. A POOR MAN'S FIELD MAY PRODUCE ABUNDANT FOOD, BUT INJUSTICE SWEEPS IT AWAY.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF OVERCOMING POVERTY.

THE RICH AND POOR MUST WORK TOGETHER TO
BRING FLOURISHING.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

1 TIMOTHY 6:17-18- SHARE, DO GOOD, GIVE.

1 TIMOTHY 5:8- PROVIDE FOR OWN HOUSEHOLD.

1 THESS. 4:11-12- WORK HARD, DON'T STAY FINANCIALLY DEPENDENT.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF OVERCOMING POVERTY.

THE GOSPEL ALLOWS ME TO HELP THE POOR WITHOUT RESENTING
THE POOR OR HATING MYSELF.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF SALVATION.

JAMES 2:14. WHAT GOOD IS IT, MY BROTHERS, IF SOMEONE SAYS HE HAS FAITH BUT DOES NOT HAVE WORKS? CAN THAT FAITH SAVE HIM?



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

JAMES 2:19. EVEN THE DEMONS BELIEVE—AND SHUDDER!

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVING FAITH AND THE FAITH OF
THE DEMONS IS NOT INTELLECT OR EMOTION BUT ACTION.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

A BALANCED VIEW OF SALVATION.

TRUE SAVING FAITH WILL EXHIBIT A RESPONSE.

SAVING FAITH IN THE GOSPEL SHOULD CAUSE ME TO ACTIVELY HELP
THE POOR.



III. A GOSPEL BALANCE.

MERCY MINISTRIES AT GBC.



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**BLESSED ARE THE POOR, FOR THEIRS IS THE
KINGDOM OF GOD. — JESUS.**



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