

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES
RESOLUTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

The messengers of the Nebraska Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting together in Spring Conference, April 27-28, 2012 in Gretna Baptist Church of Gretna, Nebraska.

Considering America's recent interest and surge for social justice; and,

Seeing that many American churches have adopted the popular social justice philosophy (formerly identified as the Social Gospel) which is contrary to the Scriptures; and,

Defining Social Justice as "*The fair and proper administration of laws conforming to the natural law that all persons, irrespective of ethnic origin, gender, possessions, race, religion, etc., are to be treated equally and without prejudice*"¹; but,

Resulting in a philosophy of anytime someone believes they do not get "their fair share" that they are the victim of social injustice²; and,

Consequently the practice of social justice is to forcibly take from those who "have" and give to those who "have not" via the required redistribution of income and property.³

IT IS RESOLVED that the Nebraska Association of Regular Baptist Churches rejects the resulting applications of the philosophy of social justice as defined above and will

Maintain the biblical mandates for the purpose of the church and the ministries given by God so that the local church will obey the command of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to provide charity to the poor (Mt 6:24; 19:21; Lk 14:13, 21; Acts 20:35); and,

Observe the early New Testament Church in generous and voluntary offering for provision of fellow believers in need (Acts 2:44-45; 4:34-35; 5:4; 2Cor 8:1-4; 9:7); and,

Focus on the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that the sinner may be forgiven and promised heaven upon repentance and faith in the vicarious death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (John 3:16; 1Peter 2:24); and,

Disciple believers who will faithfully teach other believers (2Timothy 2:2) and carry out their learning by serving in various ministries (Eph 4:11-16); and,

Obey God's command for proper justice in biblically defined right and wrong without partiality of economic status, gender, race, etc. (Proverbs 11:1; James 2:1-4, 9); and,

Generously and voluntarily provide for the needs of fellow believers as the local church has ability (2Cor 9:7) without violating the principle of the family to provide for their own (1Tim 5:8, 16); and without propagating apathy and laziness (2Thes 3:10).

1 <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/social-justice.html>

2 "Social Justice: A Definition." Excerpt from Kevin DeYoung. <http://garbcquest.org/?p=851>

3 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_justice#cite_note-5