

Racism and the Bible

RACISM - prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a different race based on the belief that one's own race is superior.

Heaven will be populated with all people groups –

Rev 7:9 - After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

I am afraid that someone, from somewhere might not be there if I don't do something about it...RIGHT NOW

1 Cor 12:13 – For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

1 John 2:11 – But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

1 Sam 16:7 – But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

1 Tim 5:21 - I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

Rom 2:11 - For there is no special respect of persons with God. KJV

For God treats everyone the same. TLB

Acts 10:34 - Then Peter began to speak: “I now truly understand that God does not show favoritism, but welcomes those from every nation who fear Him and do what is right....

Lev 19:15 – ‘Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

1 Tim 5:21 – I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

Prov 24:23 – These also are sayings of the wise: To show partiality in judging is not good:

James 2:1 - My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

Vs 8 - If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin...

John 2:23-25 - many people were convinced that he was indeed the Messiah. But Jesus didn't trust them, for he knew mankind to the core. No one needed to tell him how changeable human nature is!

Examples of racism throughout history:

Egyptians made slaves of the Hebrews

Jews looked down on Gentiles in New Testament

Muslims and Christians in the crusades

White European colonials and Native Americans

Chinese immigrants who built the railroads across the wild west

Slavery and the civil war

Hitler and the Holocaust during WW2

Japanese in US after ww2

Martin Luther King and the civil rights

When you grew up in school and saw how people treated special needs kids

When you walk into a 7/11 and cant communicate or take a cab in New York.

In 2018 in the USA...

87% of blacks are Christian

77% Hispanics are Christian

49% Whites (40 yrs ago it was 80%) are Christian

42% Asian are Christian

18% Native American are Christian

85% of protestant pastors want racial diversity in their congregation

51 percent of christians say they would be comfortable in a racially diverse church

13 % actually have more than 1 race in the congregation

Jesus radical inclusion was modeled as he had positive relationships (even if brief) with a Roman centurion, a Samaritan women, a Syrophoenician (Syrian) woman, a Canaanite woman, many Gentile heathen, Gerasene (Greek) demoniac, Canaanite (Philistine) royal official, Roman Politician,

Having only traveled a total of miles from home, he was on a mission to reach the people of:

Tyre and Sidon, Dalmanutha region, Caesarea Philippi in Iturea and Trachonitis, the province of Perea, Jericho, Chorazin, Decapolis, and Tiberius.

1. God's original intent - Gen 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2. Racism separates, and originates as part of the curse from sin.

The Tower of Babel (2 problems = pride in selfish ambition, pride in self-serving unity)

11:1 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ² As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

⁵ But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. ⁶ The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." ⁸ So the LORD scattered them from there over all the

earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

3. Christ and Salvation unifies us into one body, with one purpose - The Church.

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost (The birth of the church)

Acts 2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” ...Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day...All the believers were together and had everything in common.

4. Christians will live in unity (with diversity) for eternity -

Eph 2:14 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

Gal 3:26 -So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Rev 5: 9 persons from **every tribe and language and people and nation.**¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom.

5. In the mean time, the struggle is real –

Comedians help us laugh at ourselves at work, in church, public schools, etc

People are just different: including siblings, generation gap, neighborhoods, economics, education, even without race in the picture.

6. We must identify the root –

Pride, isolation, says if you are different, you are less than me. I don't understand you or your culture. Therefore something is wrong with you. We practice separation and segregation even with our own families in church. Separate the kids...the teens, the men, the women, etc.

Every Ethnic group has a story...

Lets continue...

Only 5% Native Americans are “born again” Christian

Why...what happened?

Hundreds of Spanish Christian missions???

We weren't content to convert the soul... we wanted to eradicate different culture and demand European assimilation

If your white, you don't like black culture (music, food, clothes, language, traditions)

If your black, you don't like Mexicans.

If you're a yankee, you don't like hillbillies! East side, west side of enid?

Rich? Poor? Smart...uneducated?

(the 5 “civilized” tribes)

Required Conversion to Christianity, have a centralized government, literacy, market participation, written constitutions, intermarriage with white Americans, and plantation slavery practices.

BIBLICAL SOLUTION (we are called to reconciliation)

Find Common ground first – Relationship

1. we all need to learn, need to repent, need cross racial relationships.
 2. we must put Christ ahead of our personal preferences and traditions
 3. I must care about others more than I care about myself.
-

Application in Enid –

5 Marshallese churches /

New Beginnings w Pastor Timothy meet here for almost 2 yrs

Several Korean Churches

Several black churches

Several Hispanic churches

1 New Native American church (Feb 3)

& Too many white churches!

