

The Kingdom and Racial Harmony

As the people of God we must understand the gospel of the kingdom. **Gal. 3:26-28** for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. **27** For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Jesus is the answer to the Race Wars of 2017!

- Millions have been baptized in water, But have they PUT ON CHRIST?!
- When you PUT ON CHRIST every believer looks like family to you!
- When you PUT ON CHRIST your racial pride and your racial scars are covered by a new identity!

Racial Harmony in America and around the world must begin first in the Church of Jesus!

Churches dividing over race and ethnic diversity is NOT the kingdom of God.

Diversity and Ethic Harmony in the Kingdom

Revelation 5:9,10 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, **10** and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Keep reading: v. 11-13 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, **12** saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” **13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them,** saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

Racial Diversity *IS* Kingdom and Racial Harmony is *NOT* an Option!

4 Foundations for Racial Harmony:

- 1) Diversity in the Kingdom is God’s Intention.

Revelation 5:9. is a glimpse into the purposes of God in the death of the Son: **A people “... from every tribe and language and people and nation.”**

It does not say that Christ ransomed *ALL* individuals in every tribe and tongue and people and nation in the same way. Christ purchased people “*from*” every tribe and tongue and people and nation.”

a) A people *from* every tribe *FOR* God. (don’t miss this – for Go)

v. 9 “... by your blood you ransomed people for God”

What will these blood-bought people be doing for God?

b) **A Kingdom of Priest:**

“... you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, **10** and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

In dying, he meant to ransom a people from every tribe, make them a kingdom, and a royal priesthood for himself.

c) Racial Diversity and Racial Harmony is hated by the devil and celebrated by Heaven.

2) God Made All Ethnic Groups from One Ancestor.

“Acts 26,27 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, **27** that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him...”

a) Notice that God is the MAKER of ethnic groups. “God *made* from one every nation.”

b) We were all in Adam, therefore we were all made in the image of God.

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.

i) Our commonality is in the fact that God is Spirit and he has made us spirit beings like himself!

ii) No matter what the skin color or facial features or hair texture or other genetic traits, every human being in every ethnic group was created by God as a spirit being.

People spend a lifetime seeking and identity in their human heritage and it leads them to human pride which never satisfies the human need, to know God.

3) All Believers Share the Same Bloodline.

Revelation 5:9,10 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

a) Ethnic diversity and harmony in a people of God was pursued by God at the highest cost!

Think about this! The issue of racial-ethnic diversity in the church is not small, because the price of racial diversity and harmony was the highest cost!

b) The world will never be able to sort out the Race Wars and Ethnic Hatred.

Through the gospel of the Kingdom, we are able to move from demands of our own bloodlines to the glory of a new bloodline.

We share a new bloodline! It's the ransoming and redeeming blood of Jesus!

4) The Church MUST Demonstrate Racial Harmony.

a) **Satan** hates Christ-exalting racial harmony. He is a liar and murderer and a ruiner of relationship. And he is stronger than you are.

b) Three Practical Steps Toward Racial Harmony

i) Repent and resist old racial biases and predispositions.

ii) Fellowship across racial and ethnic divides.

iii) Teach your children to love and value racial and ethnic diversity.

Finally:

Let us dismiss and get rid of every demeaning and unloving thought about others from our minds.

Let us remove every word and every tone of ridicule or disdain out of our mouths.

Let us go out of our way to show personal, affectionate oneness with Christians of all ethnic backgrounds.

Let us demonstrate the kingdom of God with courageous acts of inter-racial kindness and respect.

Finally let us look to Christ Jesus and be forgiven and cleansed and healed and empowered to love