

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

– Thomas Jefferson, 1776

“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.” --President Abraham Lincoln, 1863

The belief that “all men are created equal” can rightly be called the American Creed – the fundamental belief that God is the Creator of all men, and therefore all men have the right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

Racism denies this truth, since it is a belief or doctrine that states inherent differences among the various human racial groups determine cultural or individual achievement, usually involving the idea that one's own race is superior and has the right to dominate others or that a particular racial group is inferior to the others.

Let's look at what the Word of God has to say on this difficult subject.

The Reality of Racism

Fact #1 – We were all created by God and therefore are members of the same FAMILY.

Genesis 1:27: “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

Genesis 3:20: “And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.”

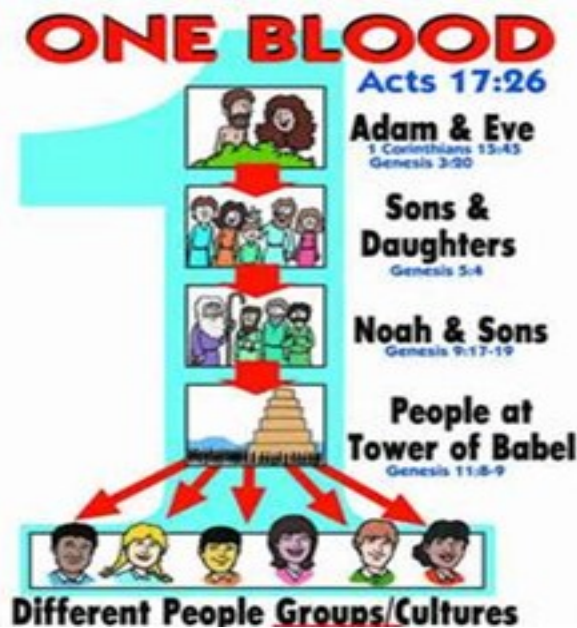
Acts 17:24-26: “God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth... And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds

of their habitation;”

This means then that there is only one race—the human race. Our differences are really only skin deep.

Although Adam and Eve are often pictured as fair-skinned and blond, they were most likely medium brown - a mixture of “light color genes” and “dark color genes.” Their descendants could have a wide variety of shades of skin color. Caucasians, Africans, Asians, Indians, Arabs, and Jews are not really different races, but rather variations of the same human race.

The human race was scattered by God in Genesis



11 by confusing the languages (the Tower of Babel Story). These scattered groups carried with them their own set of physical characteristics as determined by their genes. Over time, distinctive family traits would dominate, including hair color and skin shade (it really isn't “color” since everyone is various shades of the same color – brown).

Fact #2 – We have all sinned (disobeyed God and His Law) and therefore are FALLEN.

The Word of God teaches that after God created

man, He placed him in a beautiful garden, and gave him a simple command:

Genesis 2:16-17 “And the LORD God command-ed the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

But in spite of the simplicity of the command, and severity of the consequences for disobeying it, Adam chose to eat the forbidden fruit and became a sinner. Since we are all his descendants, we did too.

But less you think that this is unfair, God reminds us in **Romans 5:12** – “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:” You and I each had our “Garden of Eden Experience”- a time in our life when we chose to do wrong instead of right.

Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

Fact # 3 - We can receive Jesus Christ as our Savior, and thus be FORGIVEN.

No matter what your skin color or ethnic background, your basic need is the same as every other person in the world. You have sinned against a Holy God, and need a Savior.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Ephesians 1:6-7 “To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”

This is the Gospel – the good news that God has provided the way for us to be reconciled with Him and one another.

Fact #4 – We who have received Jesus Christ belong to the same FELLOWSHIP.

1 John 1:3 “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.”

Romans 10:12 –“For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.”

Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Revelation 5:9 “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

The Reasons for Racism

Learned: Children learn prejudice from their parents and peer groups. Racism is learned. We are not born with it.

Ignorance and Fear: People fear things they do not know much about, e.g. coming into contact with people who have different customs, language or appearance, they might express their anxiety through racism.

Bullying: People make themselves feel better by picking on a person or group they feel is weaker than them.

Poverty and unemployment: Racism can form in areas of poverty or unemployment. People look for someone to blame: “Arabs are buying our corner shops,” or “foreigners are taking our jobs.”

The Theory of Evolution dismantles the basis of all men being created equal. Hitler, for example, used

evolution to justify his belief in a “master race” that rightfully could exterminate other races.

Pride or having an exalted opinion about ourselves - “I am better than you.”

The bottom line – racism reflects the basic problem of the human race – **SIN**.

The Remedy for Racism

The love of God is the answer to racism. The glorious truth that God loves us – every one of us.

1 John 4:10-11 “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

Since God loves us, we should “love one another.” In fact, if a man claims to love God and hates his own brother, the Bible says, “he is a liar” (1 John 4:20).

James 2:1-9 “My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons... If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.”

Realize that God has created everyone in His image, and therefore they have the same worth and value to God as yourself.

Recognize that loving God requires loving our neighbors.

Repent of any racism in your thoughts or practices. -1 John 1:9

Resolve to be an instrument of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18 “And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;”



Recommended Reading:
One Blood, One Race
by Ken Ham and Charles Ware

THE TRUTH ABOUT RACISM



*“Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight.
Jesus loves
All the children of the world!”*

Psalms 133:1, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

By Tom Stiles

