

“LIVING GODLY LIVES IN AN UNGODLY WORLD”

JULY 15, 2020

**DURING THE GREAT TIME OUT
“REVOLUTION OR TRANSFORMATION?”**

**PART 5: CONQUERING RACISM
THE BIBLE AND CHURCH HISTORY**

*4 MAJOR PRESUPPOSITIONS WHICH MUST BE A PART OF
CONQUERING RACISM*

*THE WORD OF GOD ILLUMINATED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS THE
SUPREME AND ULTIMATE SOURCE OF TRUTH*

*EACH PERSON ORIGINATES AS A PART OF A SINGLE RACE OF ONE
BLOOD, ONE DNA, ONE SET OF PARENTS FOR ALL, ONE CREATOR,
PROVIDER, REDEEMER AND MULTIPLE EMANATIONS*

The differing appearances of members of the human race are due to genetics, environment, and culture as strong contributing factors. As far as skin color goes it is only the presence of more or less melanin which may be inherited from several different generations of the individual. In the Scriptures it is not even noted.

The Bible does not divide people into colors. They are mentioned as coming from different heads of the family, their similarity by geography and ethnic background. Only in the case of the illegal and immoral abomination of the cross-breeding of the sons of God with the daughters of men is anyone classified as anything other than a human being. Differences are noted in allegiance to YHWH Elohim or no and the subsequent character quality which follows that, i.e. wicked, righteous, lazy, diligent, fool, wise, etc. They are blessed by faith in Him and as to relationship to His covenant. A great rule to follow in conquering racism is to remove color from our discussions of human beings. It is an illicit denomination for our existence. Who is black? Who is white? Why are they the only two mentioned in our proud discussions?

There is no inferior or superior “race” of man. All such expressions find their origin in the sinful, proud heart of man not in skin color. Each ethnic group has developed its technology, economy and culture out of what met its needs. As the need changed or interacted with others, adjustments were made to

improve the lot of the members. It is the sin problem of pride that wants to make comparisons with others.

There are cultures who, through technology, conquest, greed, language and pride come to dominate indigenous cultures over whom they have conquered. They are by violence or diplomacy the dominant culture. Their sinful pride will insist on cultures over which they dominate, to put into practice in their cultures, the dominant culture's way of life. They will often do that forcefully and with a superior attitude (pride) that subjugates and humiliates those they have come to dominate. What do you suppose becomes the attitude of the subjugated people? If the dominant culture comes to identify that culture by its skin color followed by classifications that are demeaning to the subjugated culture, that is sinful racism denounced by James in chapter 2 of his book and by the many OT scriptures, in particular the Torah, regarding the treatment of the alien, foreigner and stranger. If the subjugated people are demoralized by the manner in which the dominant culture has treated and continues to treat them that is the sin of bitterness. There are no innocents.

ALL (EVERY SINGLE PERSON) HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD; THERE ARE NO INNOCENTS

Ro 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (NKJV)

This is NOT a group sin in which some persons in it may be innocent, but because they are a part of the group are classified as sinners, guilty or not. God is not unjust.

This means that because every single person in the group is in violation of the faith principle of allegiance to God almighty they are guilty of unbelief. They may not have done every transgression imaginable to man. But it is not transgressions that condemn us as is it not good deeds that save us. It is distrust of God that condemns us. Transgressions come because of our unbelief and distrust of God. Man is "saved by God's grace through faith and that not of ourselves it is the gift of God, not of his works lest any man should boast" (Eph 2:8-9)

The fathers are not guilty because of the sons and the sons are not guilty because of the fathers. So the guilt for wrongs done before one was born are not his but those of the fathers. The deeds done to the fathers of the afflicted by the fathers who did

the afflicted is not the guilt of the present generation. But guilt for what is done now is the responsibility of the present living ones.

THERE IS ONLY ONE SAVIOR FOR ALL HUMANITY, THE MAN CHRIST JESUS, REGARDLESS OF ANY RECOGNIZED OR MAN-IMPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS

1Ti 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, (NKJV)

2Co 5:14 For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (NKJV)

Re 5:8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, 10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." (NKJV)

Re 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (NKJV)

Because there are no innocents and because the bigger problem for us all is our relationship to God, Christ is the answer to conquering racism. Racism is a grievous sin of pride, dishonoring God for what He has made, and rebellion to the call of God on our lives. Bitterness, as justified as it may seem, is still anger at God for allowing such things to happen. Grievously sad is the unmerciful way in which believers in Christ participated in the grave injustices for peoples of the world. Sadder still is our continued participation by neglect and apathy.

ACTION STEPS

WITH HUMILITY, GET INFORMED, BUT NOT OBSESSED, WITH THE HISTORY AND REASONS FOR THE INJUSTICE ABOUT WHICH THE CONFLICT HAS ARISEN.

- 1. Learn both sides of the disagreement and be slow to take a side.
Pr 18:17 The first one to plead his cause seems right, Until his neighbor comes and examines him. (NKJV)
Jas 1:18 Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. 19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. (NKJV)*
- 2. Is there a violation of the character of God? Let your heart be broken.*
- 3. Is there a biblically clear miscarriage of justice?*
- 4. Are you in a position to change that situation? Do you know someone who could? Or are you “taking a dog by the ears”?
Pr 26:17 He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears. (NKJV)*
- 5. What are the appeals that can be made and to whom?*
- 6. Are you in it for the long run? Can you be? Have you counted the cost?*
- 7. If you are unable or not in a position to conduct effective, direct action what faith-filled, gospel-driven actions can you take in your own sphere of influence to affect it?*

USE DISCERNMENT BEFORE JOINING WITH ANY OF THE JUSTICE GROUPS - EVEN “CHURCH” GROUPS

- 1. What are its aims and goals?*
- 2. Are those biblical and God-honoring?*
- 3. Take what you need and leave the rest but do not align with the organization or platform if it does not align with Scripture.*
- 4. Look at its leadership. Are they God-fearing, Christ-loving men looking for Biblical justice? Are they angry people willing to use any tactic to get their cause met? How do they treat the people within the organization - are they respectful? Domineering? Demanding? Demeaning?*

DO NOT LINK UP WITH AN ANGRY MAN, A DIVISIVE MAN, ONE WHO IS CONTRARY OR ARGUMENTATIVE, ONE WHO IS SEEKING

VENEGEANCE, OR ONE WHO TEACHES ANYTHING INCONSISTENT WITH SCRIPTURE OR THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF GOD

Pr 22:24 Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, 25 Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul. (NKJV)

Tit 3:10 Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned. (NKJV)

Jas 3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. (NKJV)

Pr 26:20 ¶ Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.

Pr 26:21 As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.

Pr 28:25 ¶ He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will be prospered.

Pr 29:22 ¶ An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression.

2Ti 2:24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will. (NKJV)

Ro 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (NKJV)
Ro 16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple. (NKJV)

DO NOT LET THOSE WHO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT THE TOPIC CONTROL THE DISCUSSION WITH FALSE DICHOTOMIES AND FALSE PRESUPPOSITIONS

1. *Watch out for atheistic Marxist-Hegelian arguments*

This argument is based on a supposed method of understanding the evolution of history and truth.

Hegel saw every culture as having a comfortable traditional position (thesis) that was fair to those in power out of which arises a revolutionary position to oppose it (antithesis) from those disenfranchised by the power lords. The conflict between the two produces a compromise position of a new "tradition". This new tradition is manipulated by the new power bosses or the smarter older ones and becomes the new thesis. Of course it is opposed by a new antithesis and so on until it refines itself into a utopian world. Like evolution of the species it is a time consuming process that Hegel saw had been going on for many millennia.

Marx saw this evolutionary process but thought of a way to speed it up. He divided the world into two groups. His terms were the bourgeoisie (the rich power mongering capitalists) and the proletariat (the downtrodden working class). He felt the best way to speed up the ultimate evolutionary utopian outcome was to pit the two groups against each other violently and cut out many of the second and third opponents who would only drag down the process. The revolutionaries like those of the French revolution would have to eliminate as many of the obstacles as could be done. Violence was preferred but change of laws and traditions was valuable though slower. The Marxists which have followed him kept his thinking but often put new names on the two groups.

Today's thinking has divided all humans into two categories as did Marx and demand that this erroneous system devised is the ONLY truth. You are either in the oppressed or

victimized group (Marx proletariat) regardless whether you have experienced the oppression spoken of by the group or you are in the oppressors or victimizer group (Marx bourgeoisie) whether you have ever victimized or oppressed anyone or not. The oppressed can be identified by color or by any group that has experienced prejudice of any kind. It is valuable to gain as much support as the group can in order to overthrow the oppressors. That is why group identity is so important. Once the oppressors have been overthrown, the leadership of the movement can begin cannibalizing all of those who helped them get in their vaunted leadership positions. They are seen as “useful idiots” or “useful innocents”. Whereas purity was not important before they came to power, after in power they certainly do not want any threats from people they have already known as rebels against the society. It is the heritage of the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist movements to perform genocide and mass murder far beyond seen by the Nazis who are held up as the model of human wickedness.

- 2. All of that to say, keep to your biblical presuppositions that we have listed above and do not surrender to the non-biblical positions. If that ends the conversation, then pray for them and keep an acquaintance relationship to be able to speak to them again as God grants them repentance from the hatred or false view.*

APPLICATIONS:

- 1. Speak to people as human beings for whom Christ died. The thing that all people have in common is our humanity, suffering and living a fruitful life whatever that may look like.*
- 2. Don't focus on the differences between you*
- 3. Eliminate from your vocabulary racial terms. They are not legitimate any way. This is not about being PC. It is about becoming biblical and not cultural in your conversations.*
- 4. Converse about things common to humanity but allow others to speak about issues prominent in their thinking or that trouble them.*
- 5. Ask questions and listen. Be genuinely interested.*
- 6. Always be ready to speak of why the gospel is so important to you. Don't forget the priority of your identity.*