

## #15 THE DOCTRINE OF ETHNICITY

### 30 PRACTICAL DOCTRINES YOU NEED TO KNOW | DR. RANDY WHITE

#### CROSS-CULTURAL RELATIONS HAVE BEEN A STRUGGLE THROUGHOUT HUMAN HISTORY

- Racism began long before slavery in America.
- Jews were the target of racist attacks in Biblical days (remember Haman?) and all through modern times (the Inquisition, etc.).
- Miriam seemed racist towards Moses' Cushite wife.
- Jews had prejudices against Samaritans.
- Romans had prejudices against non-Romans.
- Anyone who believes that racism is new or of modern origins simply hasn't read history.

#### THERE IS A DIFFERENCE!

- Ethnicity:
  - Ethnicity is rooted in biological traits that are dominant within a particular community.
  - Ethnicity is typically "surface level" and observable: color of skin, dominant physical features, mental and physical abilities, etc.
  - Note: Society *could* find distinctions that are *not* observable and classify into "races" using these criteria: *Blood type, for example.*
- Culture:
  - Culture is rooted in *collective experience* and is unrelated to biological traits of a particular community. Cultural traits include values, language, skills, attitudes, etc.
  - Culture changes over time, but often takes several generations to make the change.
- Race:
  - There is no fundamental biological difference among various *ethnicities* or *cultures*.
  - Animals are in the same *family* but come in various *species*. Humanity is all one *family* and one *species*.

#### WHERE DID ETHNICITY COME FROM?

- All of humanity came from two people: Adam and Eve.
- All of living humanity came from eight people: Noah, Shem, Ham, Japheth and their wives.

<sup>1</sup> <https://alancrosswrites.com/randy-white-doesnt-understand-why-racial-reconciliation-is-a-gospel-issue/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.inquirer.com/real-estate/housing/councilman-kenyatta-johnson-bay-windows-balconies-bill-point-breeze-south-philly-development-gentrification-20190528.html>

- The confusion of language is the source of ethnicity – Genesis 11:1-9
  - With the insertion (not development) of various human languages, humanity was forced into separate communities.
  - These communities did not have the whole of the gene pool, and ethnic diversity began to take shape very quickly.
- It only takes 3 or 4 generations for ethnicity to develop (or recede).

#### THE ATTEMPT TO REMOVE ETHNIC DISTINCTION IS TYPICALLY RACIST

- There is one human race, and that race should be celebrated.
- There are *also* many human *ethnicities*, and each of these should be celebrated as well.
- However, *some* of the "one human race" propaganda is an effort to remove the distinction God has given to ethnicity and especially the special role God has given to the Jewish people of our society.

#### OUR SOCIETY HAS PICKED UP A RACE-PHOBIA

- Some teach that racial justice is a "Gospel Demand."<sup>1</sup>
  - My denial of this statement was said to be, "*incredible, reprehensible, biblically incorrect, and racially offensive.*"
  - Dwight McKissik: "Jesus came to reconcile us back to God and He gave us the ministry of reconciliation.' That is the answer to the question regarding gospel demands regarding reconciliation."
  - Note the misuse of 2 Corinthians 5:18-19.
- Some teach that one ethnicity is "privileged" and the other is "victim."
  - A recent proposal to ban bay windows in Philadelphia is based on the fact that the windows represent "gentrification."<sup>2</sup>
- Some teach that capitalism is the source of racism.
  - "*Racism is a product of capitalism. It grew out of early capitalism's use of slaves for the plantations of the New World, it was consolidated in order to justify western and white domination of the rest of the world and it flourishes today as a means of dividing the working class*"
  - "*Overthrowing capitalism will of course play a large part in ending racism*"<sup>3</sup>

#### ETHNICITY IS SO ENJOYED BY GOD THAT HE INTENDS TO KEEP IT INTO ALL OF ETERNITY

- Revelation 7:9, 15:4, 21:24
- If God honors *ethnos* into eternity, so should we!

<sup>3</sup> <https://libcom.org/history/articles/racism-brief-history>