



THE GOSPEL AND RACE

MAY 5, 2024 | EPHESIANS 2:11-22

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW OF RACE

ACTS 17:24-27

- There is only one _____ race, but there are many _____.
- There are two _____ races, one that is in _____ and one that is in _____.
- The idea of multiple races based on skin color is a relatively _____ social construct invented mostly to justify _____.
- God's good design included ethnic _____.

THE BARRIER-DESTROYING POWER OF THE CROSS

- ① All ethnic peoples are _____ by sin.
 - » Alienated from _____. EPHESIANS 2:1-3
 - » Alienated from _____. EPHESIANS 2:11-12
- ② Ethnic diversities are _____ in Christ.
 - » The gospel of Jesus is for all ethnicities (all _____) and makes us "_____." EPHESIANS 2:13

- » The _____ of hostility is put to death in Christ. EPHESIANS 2:14-15a
 - » Jesus is our _____, who reconciles us to God and to one another at the _____ through the cross. EPHESIANS 2:15b-18
- ③ The church is the multi-ethnic _____ of God.
 - » The result of His work on the cross is that we are _____ in Christ. EPHESIANS 2:8-9, 19-22

APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACISM

ROMANS 12:9-21

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. What kinds of barriers separate people in our society? How can social, economic, ethnic, etc. barriers be removed?
2. Read Ephesians 2:11-18. In verses 11-12, Paul uses at least five terms to describe the unbeliever's spiritual condition. What are they?
3. Answer these quick hit questions based on the passage above: What has Jesus done? What did Christ abolish? What was the result? Who were the recipients of Christ's message of peace?
4. Read Ephesians 2:19-22. How do the images Paul uses in this passage emphasize the unity Christians have with one another?
5. Finding your answers in the passage above, how does the gospel break down religious, social, and ethnic barriers? In Christ, what is every Christian's relationship to other Christians?
6. Read Romans 12:9-21. What do you think it means to "honor one another above yourselves"? How would being "joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" affect your relationship with others? How are the instructions in these verses particularly helpful when it comes to living at peace with everyone regardless of ethnicity?