



Should Christianity Be Color Blind? truth about race

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When it comes to racism and the Bible, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had some things right and some things wrong. The famed civil rights leader and pastor shared the truth of the Scriptures when he said, "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'" The Bible never makes a distinction between races and indeed never uses the word "race" in its pages.

What the Bible does teach is that all of humanity was formed in the image of the Almighty. The Creator didn't form white man from the sandy ground and then black man from some dark dirt. Scientists call our kind the "homo sapien" species and do not distinguish between different cultures or people groups. So, how can some Bible believers justify their name calling and hatred of people with different colored skin? Why is it that the worship hour on Sunday is still the most segregated time in America? Shouldn't Christianity be color-blind?

The Bible states that the sons of Noah repopulated the entire world after it was destroyed by the flood in Genesis 6. It is from the account of Noah and his sons, that many so-called Christians have justified their racist views that black people and white people are different races. This idea states that Noah's son Ham was cursed with black sin and given the place of inferiority in society. Noah's story was warped for hundreds of years to justify slavery and hatred by Christians. Read in context, Ham was never cursed and no reference is made to any color of skin.

There are still people that believe that the Tower of Babel incident was all about separating the “races” and that inter-racial marriage should not take place. Such an argument totally misses the point of many Scripture passages that teach unconditional love. 1 John 4:20, “If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.” There are various commands in the Scriptures against intermarriage for strictly spiritual reasons. “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” says 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. The Hebrew people were forbidden to marry the Canaanites, not because of their skin color, but because of their pagan religion.

During Martin Luther King’s popular “I Have a Dream” speech given at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, Luther said that now is the “time to make justice a reality for all of God's children.” He ended his message with the famed sentence, “When we let freedom ring... we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.” It is with these statements that King misspoke. Every person on the face of the earth is not one of God’s children. Humanity isn’t basically good natured. Each person is born into the kingdom of darkness and therefore guilty and separated from God. This shows the need to be “born again” into the family of God. It is only those who are born into His family that have the right to be called His children.

Biblically, there is one race – the human race – and this group is in dire need of the love. The true family of the Almighty, full of born again believers, is a multi-colored group that should have no hatred in their hearts for those of different culture, color, or background.