

# Man: God's One Family with Different Nationalities

Acts 17:22-34; Ephesians 2:11-22

## What does the Bible say about race? How does God view race?

- There is only one race...the human race! And God created it!

## Jesus, and only Jesus, transforms broken sinners from all nations bringing them together into one great eternal family—Ephesians 2:11-21

- We don't need to achieve racial reconciliation, it already exists. It was achieved by Jesus Christ at the cross.

## God bridges the gap between nationalities in Christ Jesus. (vs. 13)

- Jesus came to preach peace to Jews and Gentiles alike. (vs. 17)
- In Christ believers from all nations have the same privileges and promises. (vs. 18)
- Jesus is the glue that holds us together into one holy eternal family. (vs. 20-22)

## Conclusion: Implications of God's one family with different nationalities

1. God created humanity in His image, therefore, people from all nations have intrinsic dignity and equal worth. (Genesis 1:26-27, 31)
2. All peoples and all nations are descendants of Adam and Eve; therefore, we are all related. (Acts 17:26)
3. All peoples are dead in their trespasses and sins. (Ephesians 2:1)
4. Hatred, hostility, or prejudice toward anyone because of their nationality or amoral cultural heritage is a sin coming from one's heart needing repentance... there is no partiality with God. (Romans 2:11; James 2:1-10)
5. Christ Jesus's death on the cross accomplished reconciliation between holy God and sinners making believers eternally one with other believers. (Ephesians 2:15-16)
6. God loves diversity within unity, so we should embrace it too. (Galatians 3:28)
7. Interracial marriage between believers is ordained and blessed by God. (Ruth 4:10-13; Romans 10:12 ; 2 Corinthians 6:14-16)
8. Working for racial harmony and equality in society is a noble cause for believers but the hope of lasting reconciliation with God is the greatest priority. (Amos 5:24; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
9. Christian children must be taught to reject worldly ideas on race and embrace God's loving ways. (John 13:34)
10. Heaven will be filled with the redeemed from every tongue, tribe, and nation. Racism is not found in heaven. (Revelation 5:9-10)