

Racial hostility destroyed, ONE new humanity in Christ

June 7th, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Genesis 1:26-27, Revelation 5:9, Ephesians 2:14-15

Racism, in any form, is a violation of God's will and contrary to God's heart.

The bible is clear about this at the beginning, at the end and at the cross.

At the Beginning (Creation)

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image...Genesis 1:26

From the beginning, ALL of humanity was created in God's very image, therefore being equal with each other and each life _____ valuable to God; and thus no one should be treated as inferior, ever.

At the End (Heaven)

"...by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

Revelation 5:9-10

This is where history is heading!! This is the goal: Every tongue, tribe and nation reigning _____ in God's kingdom.

At the cross

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace....

Ephesians 2:14-15 (NIV)

Sin had done it's work to divide humanity and now Christ came not only to reconcile humanity to God but also to "destroy the dividing walls of _____" and create "one new humanity."

Racial reconciliation is a clear goal of scripture, from creation, to the cross, to the consummation of Kingdom of heaven: Walls of division destroyed, ONE new humanity in Christ.

So what can we do to be part of God's will?

1. Live from _____ (not judgment)

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Matt 9:36

A great translation of the word *compassion* is to: "feel what they feel"

2. A posture of _____ and learning (not assumption)

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry... James 1:19

3. Build relationships with people _____ than you

"Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Lk 5:30
You can't break down walls very well if you just stay on your side.

4. Be a voice for those who aren't being _____

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. ⁹ Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:8-9 (NIV)

Responding to God...

Ask the Holy Spirit, Are my actions and attitudes moving me and others toward the clear goal of scripture (walls of division destroyed, ONE new humanity in Christ)?

Answers: infinitely, together, hostility, compassion, listening, different, heard