

A Biblical View of Ethnicity, Racism, and Justice Section 4: The Trinity, Mankind, and Relationships

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- I. God the Trinity has a relationship and designed mankind to reflect and be a part of that relationship accordingly.
 - A. The Trinity is the model community of love that works together accordingly. (John 14:30-31, John 15:9, John 16:13-15)
 - B. God created mankind to be born into a family in order to have relationships that reflect the community of love that works together accordingly. (Genesis 1:26-28, 2:18, 4:1-2, John 15:12)
 - C. God created mankind to have a relationship with Him in this model community of love. (Acts 17:26-27)
- II. Mankind fell short of the model of true community, leading to a disconnect from God and deifying of self, as well as demeaning of and division with others.
 - A. Mankind has sinned thereby creating a disconnect with God, resulting in living in sin as well as being unloving towards others. (Romans 3:23, 1 John 3:4-6, 1 John 4:20)
 - B. Mankind has rejected God's community of love and has chosen to show partiality to one another, to be divisive amongst one another, to elevate himself and to demean others as less than, thereby revealing a prideful, unloving attitude that does not represent the community of God. (James 2:9, Romans 16:17-18, Luke 18:9-14)
 - C. Showing partiality, creating division amongst one another, and claiming to be better than others are the roots of modern day practices of racism. Therefore, no matter what name is used for racism, it comes back to rejecting God's design for a loving community of relationships in exchange for earthly, natural, demonic living and relationships that result from that living. To claim a genuine fellowship with God and God-honoring relationships with others while violating the principles of humility and love is to deceive oneself. (Galatians 6:7-8, James 3:13-4:6, 1 John 4:20)

- III. God has made provision for sin through the person and work of Jesus Christ. Everyone who embraces by faith the person and work of Jesus Christ will be delivered from sin so that he or she can live in and reflect the true community of love with God accordingly.
 - A. Mankind is delivered from sin by faith in the person and work of God, leading to being a new person and being connected to a new family of spiritual origin. (2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:8-22, 1 Corinthians 12:12-18)
 - B. Those reborn of God are called to a life of knowing God intimately. (John 17:3)
 - C. Those reborn of God are called to live a life of being like God practically in all aspects. (Ephesians 4:15, 22-24)
 - D. The reborn of Christ are called to be useful to God in service, resulting in serving and doing good to others within the spiritual family and outside the spiritual family. (1 Peter 4:10-11, Galatians 6:9-10)
 - E. In essence, we the reborn of God are called to live a life of genuine love for God and love for others. (1 John 4:20-21)
 - F. We are called to pursue peace and not spread division. We are not to look down on anyone but to pursue harmony and peace with everyone based on the foundation of God's righteousness. (Romans 12:16-18, 1 Peter 3:10-11)
 - G. The ultimate goal is to live a life that brings glory to God through demonstrating and operating in a community of love accordingly. (Matthew 5:16, Philippians 2:1-15)

Key Point: The Trinity is the model community by which all other relationship are to function. There is harmony, union, and oneness among the Trinity. There is diversity, sameness, uniqueness among the Trinity. They operate equal to one another, over one another, and under one another. We are to live in community with one another reflecting these characteristics since we are created in the image of God. Only Christians can demonstrate this well. Therefore, there is no room for racism and other divisiveness amongst us. We must be about reflecting the glory of God not the glory of the devil in our relationships, demonstrating to the world how community should look. There is no room for dividing, demeaning, or deifying one another based on content, color, class, or civics. Where there is dividing, demeaning, or deifying one another, there is a dismissing of God and His community of love.