

Finding and Navigating The Narrow Way

Lesson 4 – *Only 2 Races*

INTRODUCTION

Act 17:26 “And He has made all nations of men of one blood to dwell on all the face of the earth, ordaining fore-appointed seasons and boundaries of their dwelling...”

Ever since Babel in Genesis 11, men have been fighting over superiority, judgment and race. The classic race of who is better has been a plague of man since the beginning, and it is all too easy to slight people because they are not like “us.” Yet, the truth is much simpler than this. **There is NO racism as far as scriptural consideration** – it is a man made thing. In the view of eternity and God, there are only two “races” or classes of people and nothing about HIS descriptions involves anything about skin color, intelligence, language or any of the other factors that humans ascribe. **God’s answer to this is simple – you are either God’s Child, or you are Satan’s Child.** If you are God’s child, you are with God, if you are Satan’s child, you are not. **We are either in the likeness of God, or we are not.**

Here is the simplicity of truth. Jesus came into this world to bring us back to the likeness of God in which we were created. Our Father is great, infinite, and complete. If we are in Christ then we are restored to the likeness of God, unhindered in our reconciliation to the fellowship of God. God’s identity in Christ is in us and we can be ONE with the Father. Another truth is apparent here also, is that if we are not in Christ, we are not in God and do not have fellowship with God. We are either God’s or we are not. Which are you? Because **THAT is the only RACE that matters!**

SCRIPTURES FOR THIS LESSON

Gen 1:26, 27 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 3:9-13 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Ecc 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

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Isa 57:15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Psa 22:22-31 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

Rom 3:21-25 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Rom 8:1,2 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Eph 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

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AFFIRMATIONS

- God is infinitely good, far more loving, gentle and kind to His children than any earthly mother or father imaginable.
- God is infinitely complete – there is NOTHING that can threaten or disturb Him. There is NOTHING that can be taken from Him so as to make him less than complete, nor added to Him because He is already complete and needs nothing.
- WE – YOU are made in the likeness and glory of God the Father. We are finite, yet in God through Jesus, we are in and have complete union with our Father and our Father with us. In this relationship, we ARE risen in Him, seated in heavenly places and there is NOTHING that can separate us from the love of God.
- Before you can know WHO you are, you must come to know WHO God is!
- REMEMBER – your Father holds your robe, your ring, and your seat at His Table even now, eagerly awaiting for you to come to the realization that YOU are HIS child and that HE loves you.
- In life, there is only one RACE distinction that matters. You are either God's, or you are not. Life in God comes only through Christ, THERE IS NO OTHER WAY! He alone, is the way the truth, and the life. No man can know the Father but by Him. This is not a matter to make someone inferior and judgment in this matter is not up to us. For us, the fact is we either are or we aren't. Which are we?

QUESTIONS FOR THIS LESSON

What would a world without judgment, guilt, shame, division look like if we could envision it? _____

How do you believe that God sees you right now? _____

What does being "in Christ" mean and how can I be aware of whether I am or am not in that relationship? _____

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WHY is being in Christ so important? _____

Why is it so easy for many, sometimes even ourselves, to go blind to who we truly are to God and what our relationship with Him could be? _____
