

Current Affairs # 23 – Racism and the Body of Christ, Part 2

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Now, are you ready for the second installment of this message of the Body of Christ? I have used, intentionally, the framework of racism to address this issue, and to address it forthrightly and unblinkingly. I understand that people will justify whatever they choose to believe. When you justify what you choose to believe, you are self-deceived and you are not actually interested in the truth. Scriptures say people perish because they do not love the truth.¹

These messages are not designed to affect the world. I am not preaching these messages to groups that are fully invested in their form of racism. I am not even speaking these messages to individuals who have convinced themselves that their murderous intents... And I use the term “murderous” because that is the term the Bible uses. If you hate your brother without cause, you are guilty of murder.² I did not say that; Jesus said that. I am happy to say it because He said it. I am not shying away from it. He is right, and let me be counted among those who come to the truth, who stand with the truth. Just like He said, “Whoever believes in the truth will come to Me.” He is the Truth, and that is what He said. Hatred of your brother without a cause—racism is that. You do not need an excuse, you look at somebody and you say, without any other consideration, “I am better than that person;” “I am this, I am that,” in a superior way regarding that person—that is racial hatred and it is without a cause. The person has not done anything. When you do that, Jesus says you are a murderer. Now, I stand with Jesus in this matter, and that is why I do not intend to mince words. I hope I have not done that up to now. If I do, I repent and I will make myself plain on the matter.

I do not intend to influence or change the mindsets of people who are already perishing, both in their delusion and in their actual conditions. These people live as though they will never have to give an account to God. They live in the short-views of life. They talk in terms of and they act in terms of what is politically expedient, what is socially beneficial, what is financially profitable, what brings them out of obscurity and gives them a moment in the light of their own understanding. But none of these things has any long-term, certainly no eternal, perspective. They may last as long as the Lord lets the earth remain before He comes back, but these things have no future. These points of view and these economies that attend them, they have no future when viewed from an eternal point of view.

So, I am not speaking to men and women who love darkness rather than light, people with deep brokenness in their souls and deep insecurities within their persons, and the worst of the lot, those who understand that such persons do exist, maybe even exist with a significant constituency of them, and they are shameless and vulgar in the way they manipulate such hapless souls for political, social, and financial reasons. To them, to the handlers of the masses of people, is reserved the worst of God’s judgments, because they at least know what they are doing. Some of these hapless folks are just trying to find an identity, and in the darkness in which they stumble around, these are the sounds that they hear from people who are just as blind as they are. “When the blind leads the blind, they both fall into the ditch.”³

There is no long-term, no eternal value to these points of view, however appealing they may be to people in the present state of time. So I do not intend to appeal to groups of people who are entrenched in these perspectives, and I do not intend to appeal to individuals who are delusionally deranged. I intend to speak to people who can yet hear the truth. And I do not care, frankly, on what side of the line you are. If you are White, or you are Black, or you are Hispanic, if you adopt these views, there is no accounting for a better position when you hold the same views. Everyone who believes these damnable heresies are equally opposed to the truth, and the color of your skin, or the racial background, or cultural background, as far as God is concerned, makes no difference.

Now, who do I intend to appeal to then? I intend to appeal to people who have an interest in growing up and becoming mature—people whose lives may actually count for something, measured by an eternal point of view. The church is overpopulated with people who do not intend to grow up. They intend to be spoon-fed, and they do not much care what garbage they are eating, just so long as their bellies are full of it. They will give their lives in defense of worthless, meaningless doctrines. But amongst these people, like pearls, like gold, among these people there are those who are treasures of the earth, and it is to them that I wish to speak.

So what is true? I want to begin with the prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is John, chapter 17, and in the prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ He says,

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You

have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. (John 17:1-5 NKJV)

Then, He talks about how He manifested the name of the Father to men. He goes on to say, “*They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word,*” (Verse 6)—speaking of the twelve. He goes on to say: “I do not pray for them alone, but for all who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You and I are one.” Now, I want to pick up in the reading. I just was citing around verse 20 and 21. He said, “*that **they** all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us...*” (Verse 21). Who are the “they”? All those who believe in Me through the words of the twelve—that is John 17:20. So throughout the world, irrespective of race, color, culture, social backgrounds, gender, irrespective of that, if you are a believer in the words of the apostles that have been written down under the auspices of the Holy Spirit and form the thing called the New Testament, if you are a believer in *that*, this is Jesus’s request of the Father concerning you: “*that they all may be **one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us...*” (John 17:21a). Here is to what end: “*that the world may believe that You sent Me*” (John 17:21b)—the world, the unbelievers, in seeing the manner in which all those who believe in Christ are **one**. And that oneness is not unity. That is oneness. That is being a unified whole.

Here is why it is a unified whole: because all of them need to be *in Christ*. This is not about having a program that we could all agree upon and meet to march, or meet to protest, or meet to boycott. It is that you are assembled *into Christ* as one body. The importance of this assembly is that in the way the assembled Body, comprised of many parts, functions as one, the world has the evidence that Jesus came from the Father. What was said earlier in John 3:16—“*For God so loved the world...*”—that message now becomes that which is demonstrated through the oneness of the Body of Christ. Years ago, when Billy Graham would preach that the evangelical message is summarized in one Scripture, John 3:16—“*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*”—John 17 is explaining what he means by that message. And it is not the message of “give me your hand,

give God your heart, and join the church of your choice.” God gave His Son—“*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*”

Jesus now said in John 6, “The work of God is this, that you **believe** on the One that has been sent.”⁴ The word “belief” there, or “believing,” is the word *pistis* (Strong’s G4102). It is the same word for “faith”—*pistis*/faith. It means to lie down without opposition to the truth of who Christ says He is: That He is the Son of God. Now, He is the Son of God as the sent One. God sent Him. God gave Him, and it is not just so that He would come and die on the cross. The message of the cross is this: That God was *in Christ* reconciling the world to Himself by His death on the cross—that is second Corinthians.⁵ The message of the cross is how, by His death on the cross, God was reconciling the world to Himself *in Christ*. In the death of Christ on the cross, the purpose of that death was to provide a means by which we may be collected up again as the people of God, within the context of the Body of Christ.

Now, how does that work exactly? Here is the message of the cross from a grown-up perspective. This is the message of how, in the death of Jesus on the cross, He became the propitiation for the sins of mankind. Those are big words, but do not be put off by them, because when you see the implication of these words, when you understand what they mean, you can do nothing except stand back in awe, with your mouth open at how glorious God is, how beyond brilliant God is. So the problem was this: When Adam sinned—and by the way, God knew Adam would sin, because He made provision for the salvation of Adam, for the rescue of Adam, before He made him. “The Lamb of God was slain from the foundations of the world.”⁶ How did God intend that man would be reconciled to God? What did He plan? What was His plan? Because once man sinned, there was nothing he could do to get back into the lost state, because now he is a sinner and he does not have the right to come back to God. There is no fellowship in the condition of sin with a sinless God. So, how is he going to get back? When we speak of salvation, we are not primarily talking about going to heaven when you die; we are talking about being reconciled to God. “That God was *in Christ* reconciling the world to Himself” (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:19). And just to keep the thread going in your head, I am saying that being reconciled to God *in Christ* is to be assembled as parts

of *one* body. So it is not a discussion of unity to do things; it is functioning in the earth under one Head, as one Body, and there is no place in this for racism.

In fact, racism, when measured by that metric, is a doctrine of demons. It is the thing that the enemy is able to hold onto and turn people from the way of God. The best I could say for someone who claims he believes in Christ and is a racist is that he is an infant, he is a child. Because, he is exhibiting the behavior of children, like in the Corinthian church where they were divided amongst themselves, some saying “I am of Paul,” some saying “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.”⁷ And they would prefer to eat in a segregated way in their groups whenever they would come together for common fellowship. This is what the Apostle Paul had to say to them in their state of arrested development. He said, “Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?”⁷ Then, when he picks it up again in the eleventh chapter, there he is speaking about the Lord’s Supper, and he says, “Do you despise the Body of Christ and shame those who do not have the means?”⁸ He talks about the division of the Body of Christ in the harshest of terms. He says, “Because of this, because you fail to discern the Body of Christ, some are weak, some are sick, and some die before their time.”⁹

I am telling you here today, when this message is being broadcast and the standard of God’s word is being brought back, judgment will come upon those leaders who handle the Body of Christ in such a foul and contemptible fashion, without ever addressing, in fact encouraging the racism against their brothers. This is to lay a filthy hand on the Body of Christ. This is to offend the nature of a holy God. Now, they may have done it ignorantly, but when this word comes forth, ignorance will be no fig leaf behind which you can hide any longer. Why is this so? Because the time has come for the standard of who Christ is in the earth to be raised up.

This is a clarion call for those in this battle to come alongside the King’s standard, which is being held up right where the King is. Whoever sees the King’s standard, move from where you are and come to the standard of the King. Jesus says, “Whoever loves the truth will come to Me.” That is the army He is raising in the earth today, and the rest of it will fold into the godless culture of the present age and be just a harlot that plays for the favor of political kings. This is where we are now. This is the time in which we are. “Be not deceived, God is not mocked.”¹⁰ This has gone on long enough, and God is drawing the line the sand here today in this season. This putrid evil has burst

forth in all of its ignominy and it cannot be ignored anymore. This shameful silence on the part of the majority of leaders today in the evangelical church is horrifying testimony to how far from Christ we have fallen and how obscure the standards of Christ have become to the Sunday morning experience.

So, God is *in Christ* reconciling the world to Himself. How is He doing that? I will unpack “the box” in the next message, but here: the propitiation. Let me give you the lead up to it. “Propitiation” is a term we find in the Scriptures in the book of Hebrews, and there it refers to the Ark of the Covenant. In fact, when the Hebrews referred to the term “propitiation,” it was a reference to the Ark of the Covenant. Jesus is that Ark of the Covenant, the golden box overlaid with hammered gold. Isn’t that a beautiful expression? Because He was beaten with many stripes, He is the refined golden standard of God. And in “the box” were placed the elements of a testimony and the elements of a covenant. I will want to unpack that in greater detail, but because I am running out of time, I want to get to a certain point with this today. And that is, that God sent Christ into the earth—for “*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.*”

Why did He give Him? He gave Him as this box of propitiation, this Ark of the Covenant, because when man sinned against God, he has no more communion with God because he cannot initiate it. God has to initiate contact with man, and God did that as He planned from the foundations of the world to do: He came in the form of His Son, the Incarnate—“Hail, incarnate deity.” He came as the Living God, as a gift from the Father to receive mankind who would accept Him as that gift of reconciliation. It is not just that you accept that He died on the cross for your sins, and if you believe that message you will go to heaven when you die. No. It is not just that. He assembles you by His Spirit into this spiritual Corpus, this spiritual Body, so that you become a partaker of His divine nature. Then, He begins to conform you to the exactitude of His own nature, so that when people see you, they will see Him. Until then, God, when He looks at you, only sees the box. You are *in the box*. Everything that is in the box is therefore propitiated. It means that it has an attribution from God of the righteousness of Christ. The cross was the means by which He paid the price, and God granted Him the right to redeem creation that would come to Him to be assembled; that is the term “belief”—*pistis*. When you are assembled to Christ, you are *in Him*, He is *in you*, and the Father is *in Him*, and you are in the Father—a different identity, a holy race,

a distinctive people in the earth. Not the human race, but the sons of God. Racism does not belong anywhere near that.

I am Sam Soleyn. We will continue this. We have opened up this subject and will pursue it. Join me for the next session.

Endnotes:

1. See 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 NKJV: “The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
2. See 1 John 3:15 NKJV: “Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.
3. See Matthew 15:14 NKJV: “Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.”
4. See John 6:29 NKJV: “Jesus answered and said to them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.’”
5. See 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 NKJV: “Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”
6. See Revelation 13:8 NKJV: “All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”
7. See 1 Corinthians 1:12-13 NKJV: “Now I say this, that each of you says, ‘I am of Paul,’ or ‘I am of Apollos,’ or ‘I am of Cephas,’ or ‘I am of Christ.’ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?”
8. See 1 Corinthians 11:20-22 NKJV: “Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord’s Supper. For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of *others*; and one is hungry and another is drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and

drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise *you*.”

9. See 1 Corinthians 11:28-30 NKJV: “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. For this reason many *are* weak and sick among you, and many sleep.”
10. See Galatians 6:7 NKJV: “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”