

**Title:** Kingdom People

**Text:** Ephesians 2:11-22

**Target:** The goal is not sameness, but oneness, because we are made in God's likeness.

**I. The Reason for Race: How did this begin?**

**A. Racial Delineation:** Human Race: Gen. 1:26-27. Acts 17:26 \*evolutionary explanation

**B. Racial Diversity:** Genesis 7:13

**C. Racial Dispersion:** Tower of Babel Genesis 11:1-9

**II. The Reality of Racism: How did this go wrong?**

**A. Explanation of Racism:** *"as the conscious or unconscious belief in the superiority of one race over another race, or ethnicities, which manifests itself in a variety of dismissive, oppressive, or exploitive ways."* Dr. Tony Evans

**B. Existence of Racism:** (Biblical History/World History/American History)

**C. Exposing Racism:** (John 7:24, Romans 2:11, Acts 10:34-25, James 2:9)

1. **Racism is a heart issue:** (Sin Problem is pride, partiality and prejudice)

2. **Racism is a homogenous issue:** (Single Story Perspective leads to segregation/separation) \*passed on from generation to generation.

3. **Racism is a hurtful issue:** Attacks the fundamental value system of a person solely upon the appearance, name, or geography.

**III. The Repercussions of Redlining: What are the lingering effects today?**

**A. Understanding the Term:** Discriminatory practice in which services are withheld from residents in areas that were considered hazardous to invest.

**B. Unseen places of Tension:** (Education, Business, Healthcare, Housing)

**IV. The Road(s) of Reconciliation: What are the solutions?**

**A. Culture's Response:** Critical Race Theory

1. **Origination:** 1989

a) Post-Civil Rights legal analysis

b) Preservation of History

c) Personalization through Storytelling.

2. **Reiteration:** Present Day in combination with above

a) Black Lives Matter Organization (2013)

b) 1619 Project (2019)

c) Cultural Marxism (oppressor/oppressed social division)

**B. Church's Response:** Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:11-21)

1. Imago Dei: All humanity is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27)

2. Jesus is the Example: (Woman at the Well//Good Samaritan)

3. Great Commandment & Great Commission. (Matthew 22/28)

4. Church is birthed in Multiculturalism-Unity within Diversity (Ephesians 2:11-22, Galatians 3:28-29, Acts 15)

**V. The Remembrance of Revelation: What is the view from heaven? (Revelation 7:9-12)**

**A. Oneness in our Designation:** Shared Identity in Christ alone.

**B. Oneness in our Distinction:** Multiculturalism Matters to Christ and us.

**C. Oneness in our Direction:** Shared Purpose in Christ and His mission.

**D. Oneness in our Declaration:** Shoulder each other's Burdens because of Christ and His compassion.

**Takeaway:** The lens in which we see people determines how we value people, and how we value people will determine whether we will validate or victimize people.