The Gospel at Work in the Mid-South to Reconcile Races and Ethnicities - Eph. 2:11-22

(Questions)

1. What insights, thoughts, or questions did the message generate for you today?

2. How is Galatians 3:7-9, 3:14 a fulfillment of Genesis 12:1-3,18:18? -What does this tell us about the plan of the Gospel through the Old Testament regarding races and ethnicities?

-How do these two Scripture sections encourage Christianity to be more multiracial and multiethnic?

-Although a remnant of Jews have carried out this plan since the first Christians were Jews and did initiate the process of world evangelization (Matthew 28:19-20 speaking to Jewish Christians initially), why have the majority of Jews failed to realize the goal of Genesis 12:1-3, 18:18?

-What can we learn from your answer to this question regarding evangelization of Jews along with other ethnicities and races?

3. The message contained several applications about how to raise one's racial and ethnic I.Q. Which of the applications given were helpful and what further applications would you have added to the list?

4. A multi-ethnic church is one that has a ratio of diversity that is at least 80:20. Taking that figure, some of the latest stats suggest that the percentage of Christian churches that have become multiethnic over the past couple of years has gone from 2.5% to 5.5%.

a. What does this trend of growth tell us?

b. Although there has been improvement, why is Sunday morning the most segregated hour in the week in America still? What do you think?

c. What do you think are the contributing factors that have caused the percentage to increase?

5. Read Eph. 2:11-22. Why is the gospel and this text essential to reconciling races and ethnicities?

a. What happens when the Gospel is removed as the motivation for reconciliation among races and ethnicities?

6. Read Revelation 5:9 & 7:9. Why are these Scriptures inspirational in making efforts towards racial and ethnic diversity in the church?

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(Outline)

1.It is the work of Christ through the Cross that brings together Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews. v.13

2.It is the work of Christ through the Cross that breaks down the hostility between Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews. vs.14-16

3. It is the work of Christ through the Cross that says both Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews have the same need. v.17

4. Is is the work of Christ through the Cross that gives both Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews the same access to God. v.18

5. It is the work of Christ through the Cross that tells both Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews they are a faith family. v.19

6. It is the work of Christ through the Cross that tells both Gentiles (ethnicities or people groups) and Jews that they have the same foundation and are to grow together on that foundation. vs.20-22

7. It is the work of Christ through the Cross that tells all races and ethnicities that are in Christ they belong together in Heaven. Revelation 5:9 & 7:9