

Today there is much controversy surrounding "reconciliation" between "blacks" and "whites". But as we've seen, these distinctions are both unscientific and unbiblical. In fact, such political activism does more to *reinforce* racist discrimination than to provide a lasting solution for it.

The truth is, we all need reconciliation – not the political kind, but reconciliation to God. When Adam sinned, he became SEPARATED from God (Genesis 3). Since we all inherit Adam's sin nature (Romans 5:12), we must be reconciled to God. How? By repenting of our sin and trusting in Jesus (Acts 20:21). Sin must be judged, and in love God has borne that judgment for us!

*"But God commendeth his love toward us, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were **reconciled** to God by the death of his Son, much more, being **reconciled**, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the **atonement**."* (Romans 5:8-11).

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racism

AND EVOLUTION

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What could make people feel justified in committing such atrocities? The answer is simple: Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution. If certain kinds of people are sub-human, why should it be wrong to kill them? Of course, racist attitudes existed prior to the introduction of evolutionary teaching, but it is a fact of history that evolution has been used more than anything else to *justify* racism. Even the late atheistic evolutionist Stephen Jay Gould had to admit that **"Biological arguments for racism... increased by orders of magnitude following the acceptance of evolutionary theory."** [*Ontogeny and Phylogeny*, Belknap-Harvard Press, Cambridge, MA. USA, pp. 127-128, 1977]

The idea that different "races" of people "evolved" at different rates (with some being closer to ape-like ancestors than others) can only be described as a racist philosophy. It is both unscientific and unbiblical. So where did the "races" come from? And what can be done to combat the problem of racism in society?

First of all, there is no such thing as different "races" of people. **There is only one human race.** One reason why we can look so different is that we all inherit different amounts of the brown pigment *melanin* in our skin – if we have a little, our skin is fair, if we have a lot, it is dark. There is no such thing as "blacks" or "whites" – people are light brown, dark brown, or anything in between. Similarly, the only difference between "Asian" eyes and "Caucasian" eyes is that the former have more fat in the upper lid. Such differences do not support the idea of different "races" – they simply highlight the wonderful diversity *within* the human "kind". But how then can we explain the *geographical* distribution of mankind?

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The Bible says there is only one human race – we can all trace our ancestry back to Noah and his family (Genesis 6–9) and ultimately all the way back to Adam: **"And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of the habitation;."** (Acts 17:26).

But not long after Noah's day, the time came when the world's population united in rebellion against God (Genesis 11). Instead of spreading out over the earth as God had commanded, they stayed in one place and started building the Tower of Babel – a tower of pride and self-reliance. Judgment came in the form of a confusion of their tongues – previously there had been only one language, but now there were many. This meant only people of a common language could band together, and so the world's population was divided into different groups. These people groups then began to spread out all over the earth.

The gene pool was therefore divided up as well. Those who moved in the direction of Africa may not have possessed exactly the same genetic information as those who started off in the direction of Europe or Asia. Environmental factors also come into play – in harsh, hot climates, people with fair skin would tend to die out. Conversely, in colder climates, where there is less sunlight, dark skinned people would have been susceptible to vitamin-D deficiency and various diseases. For example, the bones of the so-called *Neanderthals* of Europe (who were fully human) exhibit evidence of rickets and other bone diseases. Hence, the Biblical record of human history shows there is NO basis for racism – we are all one family.

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