

General Topics :: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES**INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by AFRICANWARIV (), on: 2004/7/4 23:11**

I have been talking to various christians that I know and some of them that I respect, about interracial marriages and most of them seem to believe that inter-racial marriages do not work at all, whether we are christians or not. Most have said that there is an unspoken verbal law that black and white do not mix. They argue that it's worse if people are of different cultures and race. I thought love has a universal language and that the color of one's skin is not important and did not realize how many christians thought about this. SO I WONDER WHAT IS YOUR VIEW POINT ON THIS

Re: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2004/7/4 23:37

In scripture God tells Israel not to inter-marry with other nations. Also you see in the story of the Tower of Babel where humanity tries to get together, and God judges them and separates and scatters mankind across the world. I think God has a purpose in different nations and people groups and really only till recently has travel become such and ease that inter-racial marriage is a very possibility for everyone no-matter what nation you live in the world. I really don't have an opinion at this point if it's bad or good. I live in Canada where there are many different races and peoples, I myself don't have a solid racial identity and background, I am a mix of many european countries. I call myself canadian (which is a vague term :-P) and I am caucasian. I can see in different countries where this might be more of an issue, it's quite prevalent in Canada where I live.

Re: - posted by ravin, on: 2004/7/5 0:29

Acts 17:26

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 their habitation;

this verse talks of the brotherhood of man, divine control. ruler of destiny

Timotheus = timothy was Jew and Greek

the word says God is no respecter of persons. we are all equal in God's sight. man looks on the outward appearance, God looks on the heart. So I'll let God be true and so should you.

Re: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by repenter, on: 2004/7/5 10:41

I have heard from people in the Southern U.S. (I'm Canadian) that they believe it is sin for people to racially inter-marry. I was appalled when I was exposed to this conversation. I don't see any support for this in the New Testament. I think that most people who would say that there are problems with inter racial marriage are speaking from personal preference, not Biblical conviction, and much of that is deeply rooted prejudice and racism based upon historical atrocity not Biblical conviction.

In the OT, inter-marriage was prohibited on the basis of spiritual purity, not racial purity. Ruth converted to judaism and married Boaz--and that was technically an inter-racial marriage. It does not appear condemned in that case but rather it is blessed and Ruth is a great example to all Christian women! We are all one in Christ. Neither Jew nor Greek, Slave nor Free, Male nor Female. Obviously all of these people have different God-ordained roles, but all are equal. The only prohibition on inter-marriage in the New Testament is between Believers and Un-Believers.

repenter:-)

Re: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by Jimm (), on: 2004/7/5 11:14

Greetings bro!

It is great to have your contribution to SI brother! If you have not been to the welcome and introduction section of the site it would be a nice place to introduce yourself. I take it that from your username you too are from Africa...that makes three of us! Which part of Africa are you from?

After seeing your question, the only scripture that came to mind is this one:

Galatians 3: 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized in

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nto Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

James

Re: - posted by AFRICANWARIV (), on: 2004/7/5 11:45

Hie Brother

I am from Zimbabwe and I am studying theology in the USA. I am really suprised with racism. I never thought it would exist between christians who profess to love God, the creator of all races.Its been a challenge for me. I courting a white girl and I have been facing resitence from fellow christians and they have been trying to discourage me not to marry this girl that I love.I am suprised that Michael Jackson, a non believer sang a song "It does not matter if you are black or white" and we the children of God cannot embrace this at all. What of the Love that the bible teaches us about??

Re: - posted by Nasher (), on: 2004/7/5 11:48

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Re: - posted by Gideons (), on: 2004/7/5 11:59

I frankly don't see any Biblical admonition against marriage of another race. We're not to be unequally yoked but that means that believers aren't to be married to unbelievers.

My wife is Asian and I'm caucasian and I would recommend that you both seek the Lord. It's difficult for children in an interracial marriage, primarily due to the prejudice, that's why I would recommend that you seek the Lord fervently.

Re: - posted by AFRICANWARIV (), on: 2004/7/5 12:06

I really agree with you in that with God on our side nothing is impossible and especially to a prayerful person. Prayer changes things and situations are changed by us on our knees. If you have God in a relationship then you should not fear what man can do.

Neniwo ndiriwe kuZimbabwe!! - posted by Jimm (), on: 2004/7/5 12:47

Zvirikufamba here mumwe wangu!!!

You don't even have to tell me about all that man... I think the story of Jacob (Genesis 29) is the picture of a man overcoming great resistance when courting the apple of his eye. 14 years is a long time to wait for someone. I do not believe our generation is as patient and resilient as Jacob was, but the story used to inspire me when I was facing some opposition in matters of the heart. People will always be "concerned" about your love life no matter who you go after; it is human nature. The question you must ask yourself is, are you giving up more than you should? Keep in mind that the primary object of your worship is still God. If your other half does not amplify this desire to worship the living God then you may need to reassess your priorities. It is not good for man to be alone but your "helper" ceases to be helpful if your beliefs are not aligned congruently.

James

PS: Wakapedzesera kubva kumba rini?

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Re: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2004/7/5 14:35

I think it is an absolute disgrace to the Body of Christ to make divisions along social, economic, racial, or cultural lines. There is way too much of that in our churches today and I believe it grieves God. The world has many divisions along those lines but the Body of Christ should be different; it just shows how worldly the church has become.

Revelation 5:9 *And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;*

People from every kindred, tongue, people, and nation are united in Christ, why don't we recognize that truth and rejoice in it?

In Christ,

Ron

Re: Neniwo ndiriwe kuZimbabwe!! - posted by AFRICANWARIV (), on: 2004/7/5 18:20

Mwana Wevhu

Ndeipi yako. Ndiri kuenda kumusha next week moday. Ndiri mupfana weku Highfields, saka rega ndimbonodya mazondo nematumbu, and not forgetting maguru. I was home in December and I am nmow going to pick up my two daughters. ple ase pray for me that the VISAS may not be a problem. Anyway how is Texas. I hope to come to Texas one day, because I have several friends there and I am made to understand kuti maZimba akazara kuDallas texas. So what are you doing in the States and for how long have you been here

Re: - posted by AFRICANWARIV (), on: 2004/7/5 18:28

Its a pity in that the church which is supposed to be beacon of light, has failed on this issue of interracial marriages. I have been warned several times that I will not get a ministry opportunity in most states, just because most people do not accept interracial marriages. I have been greeted with mixed feelings everytime I go to preach in several places, once they discover that I am intending to marry a white girl. In Africa it is not a big thing to marry a person of a different race. People actually respect you. When I told my mom who cannot that I wanted to marry a white girl she was thrilled and gave me her full blessings. The same cannot be said of my girlfriend's parents, they are finding it hard to accept that their daughter loves a black guy.

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2004/7/6 3:54

Quote:
-----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 their habitation;

technically there can be no inter-racial marriages. We only have one race down here. although people contemplating Klingon or Vulcan partners should proceed cautiously. :-D

Re: - posted by DelightedInU (), on: 2004/7/6 15:14

I don't think there is anything wrong with interracial marriage. The Bible doesn't say anything about it. Just to love one another. Not "love your race."

I think that Christians that don't believe in interracial marriage are probably talking about their own preference and views.

Slavery and our US history still has a big impact on us today. Although people aren't typically racist they still have their "learned" view on black/white issues. They believe certain things, but it doesn't make them racist.

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Something that my mom told me was that it just makes your life harder because so many people disapprove. Your whole life, people stare, make comments, say you shouldn't be together, ostracize you. I think lots of people are just trying to keep you from making a hard life for yourself.

But if you love her, that's all that matters. Pray continuously, count the cost, and if she's worth it (which I know she is, or you wouldn't be asking this question) then go for it. Who cares what everyone thinks. ;-)

Re: Ye are not of this world - posted by Jimm (), on: 2004/7/7 9:00

Mumwe wangu

One thing my sister was quick to point out to me is that it takes a while to get used to being a minority. I say, "Minority" not because of your skin color, but because of your faith. If life has taught me one lesson repeatedly, it is that not all who profess to be Christians are in fact disciples of Christ. If one is not a disciple of Christ they are of this world, and the love of Christ does not live in them. It is because of this that prejudices arrive and unconditional love is hindered. The words of Christ are always comforting in these cases:

John 15:18-25 18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. 20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.

James

PS: Sha, enda zvako kumba unombo tora mafemo! Ticha ramba tichinamatira nyaya dzemavisa. Jesu anobvise namo, anopenya mumoyo. Naizvozvo ndinovimaba kuti achakupfukidza nokupenya.

Re: INTER RACIAL MARRIAGES - posted by godobey, on: 2004/7/7 9:42

I hate racism. :cry:

Re: - posted by All2and4Him (), on: 2004/7/8 19:22

AfricanwarIV, it is messed up that people hold that. Just like Jim said, one of the problems though is that many churches in our country tell people who don't love that they are saved because they hold a philosophical understanding of Christ. These people not only do not love, they do not repent. The bible says in 1 John that none who hate their brother will enter His kingdom.

If you look at the story of Miriam's leprosy in the old testament, you will find that it came out of the situation in which Moses had an Ethiopian wife. No true Christian will hate. The word is clear on this. It's rather simple. If someone does not love or repent, they are a false believer. A lot of times they don't even know it either. This is a mission field like no other in the world.

your brother

John

All to and for Him

Re: - posted by Gideons (), on: 2004/7/9 9:36

Amen brother John to all you said particularly "No true Christian will hate." You're absolutely right.

In light of some of the recent discussions, I've been listening to a sermon by Brother Conlon from Times Square Church entitled Only One Church Testifies To Christ's Power. It touches a bit on racism, as well as "false fire." I would encourage you to listen to it. Here's a link to the latest sermons from TSC. This one was done on June 20: <http://www.timesquarechurch.org/sermons/>.

Ed

Re: - posted by Chosen7Stone (), on: 2004/7/11 21:09

I am horrified that any professing Christian would dare to hold the belief that melanin can dictate who you may or may not marry...and then claim that God says so. No way.

When God told the Israelites not to marry those of other nations, it was not for the color of their skin or their cultural persuasions. It was simply and solely a result of the gods they follow, and the one true living God knew that the Israelites would follow after these false gods if they immersed themselves with a people who surrounded themselves with idols. It had nothing to do with skin color.

I will have a new body in heaven someday, and my husband will as well. We will not be married in heaven (Matthew 22:30). But here on earth, where there is neither Jew nor Greek, black nor white, in the eyes of God...if my husband were Mexican or Russian or Argentinian or Hawaiian or Phillipino or Egyptian or Iraqi or Cambodian or South African...he would be my husband, a brother in Christ, a child of the King, and fellow co-heir with Christ.

May the Holy Spirit convict me should I ever see it any other way, and I pray the same for any other true believer.