

The Church & Racial Reconciliation

# Reconciliation Rooted in Redemption and Guided by Revelation

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*Ephesians 2:13-22*

**Christianity is the natural environment in which leaders are to be produced who can effectively articulate and model the mind of God concerning ethnic/cultural diversity within an ever increasing diverse but still segregated society.**

**Introduction:** The Bible institute commitment from Woodrow Kroll's booklet entitled. "Is the Day of the Bible College Institute Dead?"

1. The Bible Institute has a commitment to the authority of Scripture, that commitment is reflected in the quality and quantity of Bible courses in the curriculum....
2. The Bible Institute has a commitment to the study of the Bible which is characterized not by relating it to the cultural milieu or by current theological discussions about the text but by the actual study of the text itself....
3. The Bible Institute has a commitment to the transmission of a recognized body of truth as opposed to the discovery of new truth.
4. The Bible Institute has a commitment to the discovery of the practical and spiritual import of the Bible as well as its exegetical meaning....
5. The Bible Institute has a commitment to the enrichment of the student's spiritual life...
6. The Bible Institute has a commitment to provide design and direction for life.

Dr. Les Ollila from Northland Baptist Bible College was right when he wrote, "I believe Bible Colleges are needed now more than ever. They can give clear direction and absolute answers to a needy world."

One of the areas of life where directions and absolute answers are desperately needed is the arena of multiculturalism, pluralism, tolerance and racial reconciliation. Some have rightly observed the weakness of the secular humanistic approach.

## **I. The Bible clearly teaches that racial reconciliation is rooted in redemption. Ephesians 2:11-22**

- A. In Christ ... by his blood we have been made near. Eph 2:11-13; I Cor 12:13; Gal. 3:28
- B. Christ is our peace. : 14-16
- C. Through Christ we have equal access to the Father. :17-18
- D. We are fellow citizens. :19
- E. We are family. :19
- F. We are the temple of God. :20-22

## **II. Racial reconciliation must be guided by revelation.**

- A. Racial reconciliation was the brainchild of God. 3:1-6
- B. Racial reconciliation is a ministry of the church. 3:7-9

C. Racial reconciliation is a manifestation of the wisdom of God. 3:10-11

D. Racial reconciliation was a major NT issue.

1. Mt 28:19-20, Acts 1:8; 8; 10-11; 15; Rom. 14,15; I Cor. 8-11; Gal. 3; Ephesians, Rev. 7:9
2. The NT thrust was unity not division Ephesian 4:1-6
3. The process. II Peter 1:3-7.

### III. Color me love (the more excellent way)

A. The greatest commandment. Mt. 22:34-40; goal of comm, I Tim. 1:5; greater than gifts, I Cor. 13:1-7,13; God is love, I Jn. 4:7-8,16.

B. One of the identifying mark to the world that we are disciples of Christ. Jn 13:34-35

C. One of the identifying marks that we are a child of God. I John 3:14-18; Eph. 1:15; Col. 1:4; I Thess. 1:3; II Thess. 1:3; Philemon :5; I Pet. 1:21-22; II Jn :4-6

D. Love is obedience to God's Word. Jn 14:15,21; 15:10; Rom. 13:8-10

**Conclusion:** the church needs to communicate and model racial reconciliation rooted in redemption and guided by revelation. Biblical convictions in these areas can best be disseminated through the churches by well-taught leadership.

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Dr. Ware is president of Crossroads Bible College, a biblically conservative evangelical institution dedicated to training Christian leaders to reach multiethnic urban world for Christ. Crossroads Bible College is recognized by the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors. Dr. Ware speaks in many venues and serves as a consultant on racial reconciliation and leadership. His ministry is well received by audiences of all races.

Dr. Ware has written, co-written, and edited several books. His most recent book, co-authored by Answers in Genesis founder and president Ken Ham, is One Race One Blood (previously published under the title Darwin's Plantation: Evolution's Racist Roots (Master Books, 2007).