

Is God a Racist? (part one of a two part series)

Is God a racist? Does God view one group of people as somehow superior to any other? The answers are obvious: no and no! Undeniable proof is to be found in both Old and New Testaments. For today's segment, our focus will be upon several texts from the New Testament. The most familiar is that of John 3:16 –

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

God's unconditional love for every human being is proven through the death of Jesus Christ as payment for the penalty of sin for everyone. Since this same salvation is available to all of us without exception, it is impossible to logically conclude that God favors one group of people over another. This is confirmed in Romans 2:11, where the apostle Paul tells us that there is “no partiality with God.” This was the same conclusion drawn by the apostle Peter, after his dramatic vision on the rooftop of the house of Simon the tanner in Acts 10:9-16. As a result, this lesson learned about the impartiality of God, motivated Peter to accept an invitation to share the gospel with the household of Cornelius, the Roman centurion. Peter's opening remarks upon entering the Gentile's home are recorded for us in Acts 10:28, as well as in 10:34-35, where we read this –

“And he said to them, ‘You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.’”

“Opening his mouth, Peter said: ‘I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.’”

When Paul wrote to the Galatian church in order to resolve any existing racial divisions between Jew and Gentile, he made it clear that every believer in Christ has the same equal standing before God, in Galatians 3:28 –

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”