Race, Ethnicity, and the Gospel

Mitchel Lee
NO MORE ANCHOR BABIES!

No Birth Tourism!
Pursue Christ, ENGAGE others, and Impact the World
We have a common origin.
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These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood.

Genesis 10:1 (ESV)
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Genesis 10:1 (ESV)

These are the clans of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, in their nations, and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood.

Genesis 10:32 (ESV)
And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,

Acts 17:26 (ESV)
“The heart that believes one race is more valuable than another is a sinful heart. The behavior that distinguishes one race as more valuable than another is a sinful behavior. And that sin is called racism.”

*Bloodlines*, John Piper
“True reconciliation begins when we recognize that we all belong to one race in Adam and, if we are Christians, to one new race—the people of God in Christ. What this means practically in the church, however, is being not less aware of different skin colors, but more!”

Thabiti Anyabwile
14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.
Our ethnic distinctions are secondary to our new identity in Christ.
There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28 (ESV)
It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isaiah 2:2-4 (ESV)
RECONCILIATION
“...the will to give ourselves to others and welcome them, to readjust our identities to make space for them, is prior to any judgment about others, except that of identifying them in their humanity.”
Gospel-grounded racial reconciliation begins with what Christ accomplished at the cross. He united one-time enemies to God and therefore to one another. He made the two one. Racial reconciliation begins with who we are in Christ. And then racial reconciliation shows itself in our love for the “other.” To define racial reconciliation as simply diversity, or to think that our churches are racially reconciled simply because they might be diverse, is misleading.

Jarvis Williams
9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Revelation 7:9-10 (ESV)
The ultimate goal of ethnic diversity and racial reconciliation is the worship of God.
Who do I need to know and learn from in order to see Christ better?
1. Who am I?
1. Who am I?
2. Show favor, not favoritism.
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3. Ask, don’t assume.
1. Who am I?
2. Show favor, not favoritism.
3. Ask, don’t assume.
4. Feel, don’t fix.
1. Who am I?
2. Show favor, not favoritism.
3. Ask, don’t assume.
4. Feel, don’t fix.
5. Invite.