

Equal in God's Eyes

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. Acts 17:24-28
- B. Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."
 - 1. This paragraph is believed and held dear by many.
- C. Is it true that all men are created equal? We know that each one of us is a unique individual; even identical twins are not perfectly equal.
 - 1. It depends on whether we define equal based on our subjective viewpoint or from God's objective word.
- D. Inequalities in this world exist and always will.
 - 1. We are not equal in circumstances of our lives - Ecc. 9:11

I. EQUAL IN ORIGIN

- A. The common thread among all people is that we are created by God.
 - 1. Prov. 22:2; Acts 17:26
- B. We all came from Adam and Eve - Gen. 2:21-23, 3:20; 1Cor. 15:45-49
 - 1. Seven generations later, the earth was destroyed because of world-wide sin, except for Noah and his family, from whom we descended. Gen. 6:5-8, 9:19
 - 2. The various peoples, nations, and languages were generated at the scattering of humankind from Babel - Gen. 11:1-9
- C. What has always fascinated scientist is that all the variations we see in humans are the results of only minute differences in our genetics.
 - 1. An evolutionary biologist (thus having no reason to support the Scriptures) found: "Race doesn't matter. In fact, it doesn't even exist in humans. ... Alan R. Templeton, Ph.D., professor of biology in Arts and Sciences, has analyzed DNA from global human populations He shows that while there is plenty of genetic variation in humans, most of the variation is individual variation. While between-population variation exists, it is either too small, which is a quantitative variation, or it is not the right type of qualitative variation -- it does not mark historical sub lineages of humanity." [Tony Fitzpatrick, "Biological differences among races do not exist, WU research shows."
<http://record.wustl.edu/archive/1998/10-15-98/articles/races.html>]
 - 2. "The geographical maps of principal component values constructed by Cavalli, Menozzi and Piazza in their famous The History and Geography of Human Genes show continuous variation over the whole world with no sharp boundaries and with no greater similarity occurring between Western and Eastern Europeans than between Europeans and Africans!" [R.C. Lewontin, "Confusions About Human Races."
<http://raceandgenomics.ssrc.org/Lewontin/>]

II. EQUAL IN FALL

- A. Unfortunately, humankind shares equality in vulnerability; we all are subject to temptation and sin - Rom. 3:23
- B. Sin started with Adam, and every accountable human being imitates his fall in our own ways - Rom. 5:12-14
- C. National origin is no protection from sin - Rom. 3:9-10

III. EQUAL IN THE JUDGMENT

- A. Everyone will appear before God - 2Cor. 5:10
- B. Every nation will come before Christ - Matt. 25:31-32; Rom. 3:29-30
- C. It is this equality in judgment that should give Christians empathy for fellow disciples - Rom. 14:10
- D. Judgment will be impartially conducted based on what we have done:
 - 1. Fairly rendered - Col. 3:24-25
 - 2. Based on what we have done - Rev. 22:12
 - 3. What we do will be measured by the truth - Rom. 2:2-6, 11
 - 4. It will be by means of the record of our lives - Rev. 20:12
 - 5. By the standard of the Gospel - Rom. 2:16

IV. EQUAL IN THE OFFER OF SALVATION

- A. God loves us too much to let us go hopelessly and inevitably to Perdition.
 - 1. Rom. 5:6-10
- B. God's desire to save every willing human being was an integral part of His eternal plan for the world - John 3:16-18; Eph. 1:3-14
- C. This plan of salvation is offered to everyone equally - Gal. 3:26-29
 - 1. Without distinction - Rom. 10:12
 - 2. Everyone who wills may be made new - Col. 3:9-11
- D. But while the plan is equally offered, not everyone will accept it; most will reject the promise of salvation given equally to all, a salvation that makes everyone equally a child of the Creator and King in Heaven.
 - 1. Phil. 2:12-13; Acts 10:34-35; Rev. 22:14, 17