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Recap

"The matter is quite simple. The bible is very easy to understand. But we Christians are a bunch of scheming swindlers. **We pretend to be unable to understand it because we know very well that the minute we understand, we are obliged to act accordingly.** Take any words in the New Testament and forget everything except pledging yourself to act accordingly. My God, you will say, if I do that my whole life will be ruined. How would I ever get on in the world?" **Søren Kierkegaard**

Big data is coming. Should we be afraid?

Washington Post, Editorial Board

Americans should not fear a future of big data, in which vast amounts of information about people's homes, habits and health, among other things, can be collected, stored, accessed and analyzed. **But they should be cautious.**

Big data is coming. Should we be afraid?

Washington Post, Editorial Board

Your thermostat can adjust your energy use to limit overconsumption — and collect data indicating where you are in your home. GPS devices can track your workouts — and tell app makers, or anyone who buys the information from them, where you've been. Secondhand data brokers get their hands on all sorts of information generated on phones, in Internet stores and in other contexts, **creating sometimes-extensive profiles of individuals.**

Big data is coming. Should we be afraid?

Washington Post, Editorial Board

Among the things to be concerned about are those private data brokers and other companies that compile massive amounts of information on hundreds of millions of people from sources such as social media services, online ad clicks, purchase histories and public records. Some even assign individuals scores, analogous to traditional credit scores, **without regulation.**

Many Americans have an uneasy feeling about what is happening. They realize how easy it can be for this type of violence to spread to other cities. The United States is filled with thousands of Ferguson's waiting to boil over. **These situations are occurring more and more frequently.** Each time, the emotion is more heated. The violence is worse. **The racial hatred is rising.** At the same time, the media and the public trust law enforcement less and less.

Gerald Flurry



**Christianity is now more identified
with white western culture**

**How did an ancient middle eastern
religion become synonymous with this?**

Race in the Old Testament

**"I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.**

**I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you**

Genesis 12:3

God's intent

Race in the Old Testament

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him,
"As for me, this is my covenant with you:
You will be the father of **many nations.**"

Genesis 17:3

God's mechanism

Race in the Old Testament

"A foreigner residing among you who wants to celebrate the Lord's Passover must have all the males in his household circumcised; then he may take part like one born in the land. No uncircumcised male may eat it. **The same law applies both to the native-born and to the foreigner residing among you."** Exodus 12:48-49

God's inclusion

Race in the Old Testament

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. **Your people will be my people and your God my God.**" Ruth 1:16

God's example

Race in the Old Testament

Ruth was a Moabitess. She was born and raised in paganism. The priests of Moab were powerful and cruel, and they served an assortment of gods. But the most feared god of all was Chemosh, or Moloch. Chemosh had his terrible place on a platform of movable stones under which great fires could be kindled. Chemosh's lap was so constructed that little children placed on its red-hot surface would roll down an inclined plane into his fiery belly.

Race in the Old Testament

He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth. **Isaiah 11:12**

The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. **Foreigners will join them and unite with the descendants of Jacob.** **Isaiah 14:1**

The Gospel and Race

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. **I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.** But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." **Matthew 8:10-12**

Jesus warning

The Gospel and Race

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. **John 4:39-41**

Jesus example

Early Church and Race

Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. **He did not discriminate between us and them**, for he purified their hearts by faith. **Acts 15:7-9**

Spirit's choosing

Early Church and Race

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. **Galatians 3:26-29**

The true church

Early Church and Race

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, **from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.** They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb." **Revelation 7:9-10**

God's proof

Early Church and Race

Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether
Jews, Greeks or the church of God—
1 Corinthians 10:32

The third way



Christianity historically became entwined with European culture. So that missionaries not only spoke about God, but about culture and politics as well

This enmeshment has led to abuse, confusion and misrepresentation

"Yet from its inception, Christendom suffered the **ill effects of the church's intimate relationship with the state.**

While in an environment of open religious competition American Protestant denominations have thrived both in numbers and—often—in spiritual health, European Christianity's disputes have historically proven bloody and spiritually costly." **Collin Hansen**

"The Church was as concerned with this world as the next: I saw that virtually all of the achievements of Africans seemed to have come about through the missionary work of the Church," Nelson Mandela

"The Good News borne by our risen Messiah who chose not one race, who chose not one country, who chose not one language, who chose not one tribe, who chose all of humankind!"

William J. Seymour



In 1903 Seymour moved to Houston, Texas, in search of his family. There he joined a small Holiness church pastored by a black woman, Lucy Farrow, who soon put him touch with Charles Fox Parham.

Since Texas law forbade blacks to sit in classrooms with whites, Parham encouraged Seymour to remain in a hallway and listen to his lectures through the doorway.

In early 1906, Seymour was invited to help Julia Hutchins pastor a Holiness church in Los Angeles.

William J. Seymour

What happened at Azusa Street during the next three years was to change the course of church history. Although the little frame building measured only 40 by 60 feet, as many as 600 persons jammed inside while hundreds more looked in through the windows.



William J. Seymour

African-Americans, Latinos, whites, and others prayed and sang together, creating a dimension of spiritual unity and equality, almost unprecedented for the time. It allowed men, women, and children to celebrate their unity in Christ and participate as led by the Spirit. Indeed, so unusual was the mixture of blacks and whites, that Frank Bartleman enthusiastically exclaimed, **"The colour line was washed away in the blood."**

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. **His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity** out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

Ephesians 2:14-16