

COMMON TRAITS OF ALL MEN (Galatians 3:28)

1.A common origin.

- a. This idea of one group of people being better than another or superior to another is not a new concept.
 - i. The Greeks of long ago believed they were better than everyone else.
 - ii. Even before that, Egyptians believed they were better than everyone else (Genesis 43:32).
- b. Because of their idea of superiority, Paul addressed this topic while in Athens.
- c. Notice what he preached, recorded in Acts 17:25-26.
 - i. He said of God, that He made “of one blood all nations of men”.
 - ii. The ASV renders that statement, “of one every nation of men”.
 - iii. What does that mean?
 - iv. The phrase “of one” is extremely important in understanding the meaning.
 - v. The verse literally says “of one” and the word “blood” is not found in the original language.
 - vi. The word translated “one” is in the masculine form, so it literally means, “out of one male”.
- d. This is obviously a reference to Adam and all human descent from him.
- e. In reality, the only race on the face of the earth is the human race.
 - i. There are cultural differences with in this one race, of course.
 - ii. However, we are all of the same race.
- f. Science refers to all mankind as homo sapiens.
- g. Notice now what Paul told them a few verses later (Acts 17:28-29).
 - i. We are God’s offspring since we are all descended from the one male that God created.
 - ii. Every person on the face of the earth has two common sets of ancestors.
 - iii. Everyone descended from Adam and Eve, and, everyone has in common also, Noah and Mrs. Noah.
- h. Science tells us that the genetic differences between what we have come to call races, black, white, Asian, Native American, or whatever, is .2%, or 2/10th’s of a percent even coming from the same group of people.
 - i. Think of that!
 - ii. What we would call racial characteristics, skin color, facial distinctions, only count for 6% of that 2/10th’s of a percent.
 - iii. In other words, what we count as a racial distinction only varies by twelve thousandth’s of one percent.
 - iv. In other words, an extremely minute amount of difference exists between peoples of what we have determined to be races.
- i. In reality, science tells us that there is more of a genetic difference in people of the same skin tone than there are between those of different skin tones that we have classified as races.
- j. What I’m saying is, if we make racial distinctions, we are doing so based only on outward appearances.
- k. In reality, most of our racial distinctions are based on the evolutionary teaching of Charles Darwin.

- i. Before him, the word race was largely used as a political or geographical term.
- ii. Based on evolution, the term race came to mean higher or lower races.
- iii. Thomas Huxley, devoted disciple of Darwin and devout atheist, in an essay entitled "Emancipation - Black and White", wrote, "no rational man, cognizant of the facts, believes that the average Negro is the equal, still less superior, of the white man".
- iv. How awful is that?!
- v. But that is what evolution teaches that most don't want to admit.
- l. All mankind, black, white, Asian, whatever, is made in the image of God and descend from Adam.
- m. Racism is sinful because of this and other reasons.
- n. We are much more alike than we like to admit because we share a common origin.

2.A common problem.

- a. Since we are all descendants of Adam, we all share a common problem - sin.
- b. Romans 3:23 includes all people of what we would call every race, which is really of every culture.
- c. There is not a person on the face of the earth of sound mind, despite what color of skin is possessed or part of the planet from which the person may be, who is not affected by the problem of sin.
 - i. Throughout history, every civilization about which we read has been plagued by sin.
 - ii. From Adam and Eve on, sin has troubled us greatly (1 Corinthians 15:22).
- d. You and I are just like any person of any other skin color: plagued by the problem of sin.
- e. You and I, just like anyone else of any skin color, has death waiting for us because of sin (Romans 6:23).
 - i. Physically, we all die.
 - ii. Spiritually, we all die.
- f. Every person, because of the fact that we are created with an immortal soul, is equal in the eyes of God - God does not play favorites.
 - i. Galatians 2:6 - ESV renders it "God shows no partiality").
 - ii. Acts 10:34-35.
- g. We can't show partiality either (James 2:1).
- h. Every person, no matter the culture in which they live, shares the common problem of sin.

3.A common salvation.

- a. Jude 3.
 - i. By inspiration, Jude told his readers that he had wanted to write to them of the common salvation.
 - ii. Instead, he was inspired to write to them to defend the once delivered gospel message.
- b. By common, it is meant that all men are saved in the same way.
- c. In fact, the salvation of man, sadly, is uncommon in that few are going to be saved.

d.However, if we are going to be saved, it is going to be in the same way as anyone else is saved.

e.A black man who wants to be saved can only be saved in the same way a white man is going to be saved.

f.An oriental man who wants to be saved can only be saved in the same way an Indian man is going to be saved.

g.It is only be obedience to the gospel that anyone of any culture can ever be saved.

i.We have no right whatsoever to keep the gospel from any group of people.

ii.We are to go into the whole world.

iii.We are to preach the gospel to every creature.

iv.We can't show partiality.

h.This has been a problem in the Lord's church in times past.

i.I'm thankful this congregation has seen fit to take the gospel into communities where there are few white people.

i.I'm thankful we have fellowship with our black brethren.

ii.Not every congregation has allowed a black preacher to stand in her pulpit and preach like we have.

j.The message of the gospel is the same for all no matter the color of one's skin.

k.We are all the same in Christ (Galatians 3:28).

l.There are no distinctions when it comes to color of skin or place of origin.

m.If we are going to be saved, it is in common with anyone else who is going to be saved.