

“Black, White, or Jew”

Rom. 15:8-13

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Introduction

After dealing with the reception of the weak (Jews) back into church membership in Rome (cf. Acts 18:1-2), Paul returned to his ministry to the Gentiles. He reminded them of their salvation in the Jewish Messiah, Jesus Christ. His points of reminder were the following:

I. The PROVISION of Salvation for the Gentiles (vv. 8-9a).

- A. Salvation to the Jews (v. 8)—cf. Rom. 1:16
- B. Salvation to the Gentiles (9a)—cf. Col. 1:25-29

II. The PROOF of Salvation for the Gentiles (9b-12).

Tanak:

- A. v. 9b—Ps. 18:49
- B. v. 10—Dt. 32:43
- C. v. 11—Ps. 117:1
- D. v. 12—Isa. 11:10

III. The PROMISE of Salvation to the Gentiles (13)

- A. They had no hope (Eph. 2:12)
- B. They now have “*hope*” (2x)
 - 1. Col. 1:27
 - 2. Tit. 1:2; 2:13; 3:7

Application: Who are the Gentiles?

- A. Gen. 10:1-5: the Japhethites (Caucasians).
- B. Jdg. 3:1: the Canaanites or Hamites (Blacks).
- C. Gal. 3:28: “*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*”

D. History of Baptists and Blacks

1. Southern Baptist Convention was started in 1845 so Baptist pastors could maintain plantations with Black slaves. Blacks were segregated and treated as inferior.
2. Fundamentalism started in the 1920's as an American, Protestant, and White movement. Fundamentalism perpetuated segregation treating Blacks as inferior.
3. Blacks have limits with regard to church life and theological advancement:
 - a. If Blacks join a Fundamentalist Baptist church they may be treated as in the past with segregation and inferiority.
 - b. If Blacks join a Black Fundamentalist church (COEBA = Conference on Evangelizing Black America), then they are perpetuating segregation and inferiority.
 - c. If Blacks join a National Baptist Convention church they will be given a diet of liberalism and social gospel activism.
 - d. Some Blacks may decide to abandon Christianity and examine the Islamic movement.
 - e. However, Blacks should join a biblical church which promotes the unity of repentant sinners around the Lord and His Word—such as Bible Baptist Church, Cromwell, CT.