Confronting the Realities of Racism

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Remember that at one time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. \(13\) But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, \(^{15}\) 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, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility. ¹⁷
He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.
Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of His family, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone.
In Him the whole building/family is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit. (Ephesians, 2:12 – 22)
America does not really have a SKIN problem,
we have a SIN problem.
Confronting the Realities of Racism Means We Must:

1. Name Racism for what it is, namely SIN.
“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14 – 16)
What you cover, God will uncover…

But what you uncover, God will cover…
Confronting the Realities of Racism Means We Must:

1. Name Racism for what it is, namely SIN.

2. Walk Over the Bridge to a New America
“There are places and moments in America where this nation’s destiny has been decided... Selma is such a place. In one afternoon 50 years ago, so much of our turbulent history – the stain of slavery and anguish of Civil War; the yoke of segregation and tyranny of Jim Crow; the death of four little girls in Birmingham; and the dream of a Baptist preacher – all that history met on this bridge.” (President Barak Obama, March 7, 2015)
“Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?”

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr)
“We are faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now!"

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?)