

Racial Reconciliation

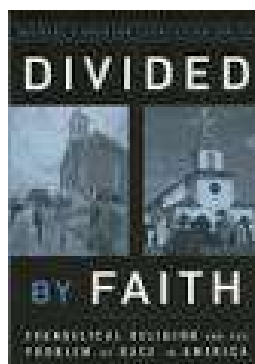
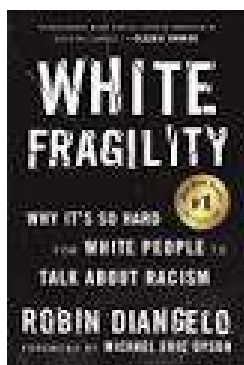
Racial Reconciliation - Ephesians 2:10-11 | Dr. Voddie Baucham <https://youtu.be/FoJGYCc7EUg>

Ephesians 2:11-21

- Amid the discussions about all these social issues the ultimate question is:

“What does God say about us?”

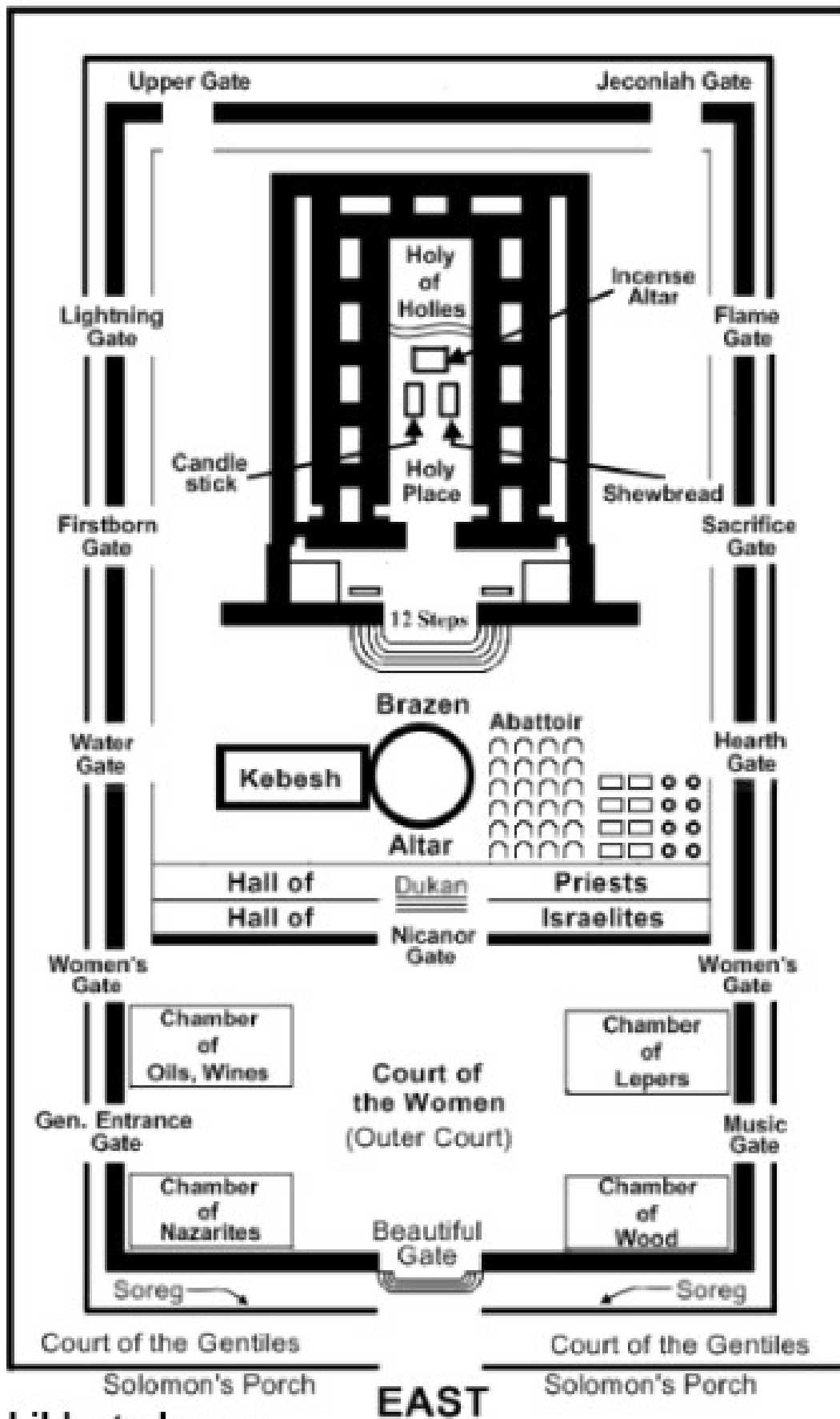
- Area of concern
 - Development of a new Hermeneutic and new Canon
 - Sin has become Institutional as opposed to being in the heart of man
 - Must read sociology books in order to understand the Scriptures as it relates to our unity with one another in-Christ.
 - New statement today – “It wasn’t until I read this book that I understood God’s heart on race relations.”
 - Sociology is now overriding and governing our Theology
 - If you are not on the right side of the issues of Social Justice, then you “haven’t done your homework!”



Is the Bible sufficient for Racial Reconciliation?

- Can we achieve Racial Reconciliation with just the Bible?
- Voddies' observation
 - 1990's with Promise Keepers he saw white pastors genuinely passionate about having their church bodies reflect their local community
 - He did not see that from his side – he didn't know black pastors that were concerned their church bodies were too black
 - Accused of abandoning "his" people
- Racial Reconciliation does not have to be achieved – it exists and has already been achieved.
 - It is a reality we must walk in.
- **Bad News! Eph 2:11 - ... *having no hope and without God in the world.***
 - The magnitude of the division between Jews and Gentiles was real and made by God
 - Understand that the division here that God created is more significant than anything else we could face in this life
 - Worse than –
 - Sitting in the back of the bus?
 - Lynching?
 - Slavery?
 - Division by race is arbitrary – it is not real
 - National Geographic article from March 2018 -
 - *"There's No Scientific Basis for Race—It's a Made-Up Label*
 - *It has been used to define and separate people for millennia. But the concept of race is not grounded in genetics."*
 - There is only one race
 - If we were not of the same race, we could not reproduce with one another
 - The genetic difference between the Hutus and the Tutsis is small. The genetic difference between black people and white people is almost as small
 - The division that God established between Jew and Gentile was not arbitrary but real
 - ***If God can reconcile those with real God ordained distinctions, then God can certainly reconcile those with arbitrary distinctions!***

Interior of Jerusalem's Temple



- **But now-**
 - *13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were ^pfar off have been brought near ^qby the blood of Christ. 14 For ^rhe himself is our peace, ^swho has made us both one and has broken down ^tin his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ^uordinances, that he might create in himself one ^vnew man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might ^wreconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.*
 - You have been reconciled! How? By the blood of Christ!
 - The blood of Christ IS sufficient
- Christ is our Peace - *14 For ^rhe himself is our peace,*
 - Not just a peace where there is no fighting, which is good.
 - God made US ONE
 - **We do not just stop fighting with one another – we become one another!**
 - This is the reconciliation that makes us brothers and sisters in-Christ
 - Cannot be achieved with sociology books but only by the blood of Christ
- This reconciliation was needed for both Gentile *and* the Jew
 - Even though the Jews had privilege, the promises, the covenants and scriptures they still needed Christ
 - God is no respecter of man
 - Peace to you who are far off and those who are near....
 - All people need the Gospel – even rich people
- Because of this reconciliation we are members of the household of God
 - It gives both Jew and Gentile access to the Father through the Son by the Spirit
 - The Trinity
 - He did not just fix what was broken but replaced it with something new
- This is Racial Reconciliation
 - *20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

○ THIS IS RACIAL RECONCILIATION

- We do not have to achieve this **we need to believe it**
- Christ has achieved reconciliation and **we need to walk in it**
- ***It is done, it is real we are one in-Christ!***
- ***The Bible IS Sufficient!***



Reconciliation

Small Group Questions

1. What has been your understanding of “one in-Christ?”
2. Why do we not think of sharing the Gospel or planting a church for rich people?
3. How can we argue against the idea that we “need to do our homework” by reading sociology books in order to understand God’s word?
4. Do you think the Bible is sufficient? If it is, why?