

Jonah

Grace for All Races

June 11, 2017 / Dan Solofra

Racism: *prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a **different** race based on the belief that one's own race is **superior**.*

Am I a racist?

²⁶ *From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. Acts 17:26, NIV*

There is really only _____ race – the _____ race.

¹ *Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ² "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you." ³ Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Jonah 3:1-3^a, NIV*

In his grace, God sometimes gives us a _____.
Make sure to _____ it.

Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." Jonah 3:3^{b-4}, NIV

Condemning sin is not _____. It is _____ and the first part of _____.

⁵ *The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, **put on sackcloth**.*

⁶ *When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. Jonah 3:5-6, NIV*

God's grace is for all _____ of all _____.

Grace teaches us to look away from _____ and to _____.

⁷ *This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. ⁸ But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. ⁹ Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish." Jonah 3:7-9, NIV*

Belief in God moves us to take his _____ and _____ with equal seriousness.

¹⁰ *When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. Jonah 3:10, NIV*

God's desire is to free us from our _____ to sin so that we can enjoy a _____ with him.

"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. ⁸ God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. ⁹ He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. Acts 15:7b-9, NIV

For God it is not about _____, it is about _____.

MEMORY VERSE

⁹ *He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. Acts 15:9, NIV*

My next step: I will see all people in the world as my brothers and sisters who have been shown grace, just like me. I will treat people based on God's grace, not race.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.