

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD & THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH

Acts 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; **Acts 17:27** That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: **Acts 17:28** For in him we live, and move, and have our being...

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in **Jerusalem**, and in **all Judaea**, and in **Samaria**, **and unto the uttermost part of the earth**.

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; **and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.** **Acts 8:2** And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. **Acts 8:3** As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. **Acts 8:4** **Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.**

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **Acts 13:2** As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. **Acts 13:3** And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. **Acts 13:4** So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, **and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,** **Acts 16:7** After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: **but the Spirit suffered them not.** **Acts 16:8** And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. **Acts 16:9** And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. **Acts 16:10** And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, **assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.**

God forced Christians away from the roots of Christianity (Judea, Galilee, and surrounding areas) to...

Paul then deals with the peoples of the earth from God's perspective!

1. God created **one** human race!

Acts 17:26 And hath made of one blood (ἐξ ἑνὸς αἵματος πᾶν ἔθνος ἀνθρώπων, κατοικεῖν ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς) all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

When Paul looked at the obvious diversity, he saw all over the Mediterranean world he saw a more fundamental unity → one human race!

[I don't really care for the term "race" since it has been horribly abused and since there is only one human race!]

What does this mean?

A. One common, humanity / race

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name **Eve**; because she was the mother of **all living**.

B. One common image of God (Imago Dei)

Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

Genesis 5:2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. **Genesis 9:7** And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

C. One common humanity → homo sapiens

Acts 17:26 And hath made of **one** blood (ἐξ ἑνὸς αἵματος πᾶν ἔθνος ἀνθρώπων, κατοικεῖν ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς) **all** nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

DNA seems to settle this once and for all – same origins

D. One common problem and one common solution

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by **one** man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Romans 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. **Romans 5:19** For as by **one** man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of **one** shall many be made righteous.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as **in Adam** all die, even so **in Christ** shall all be made alive.

We all sin in Adam: seminally – we are part of him, federally – he represented us
All those in Christ are made alive.

E. One common, absolute dependance on God

Acts 17:24 God that made the world and **all** things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth **not** in temples made with hands;

Acts 17:25 **Neither** is worshipped with men's hands, **as though** he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all **life** (ζωὴν), and **breath** (πνοήν), and **all things** (πάντα);

Acts 17:28 For in him we **live** (ζῶμεν), and **move** (κινούμεθα), and have our **being** (καὶ ἐσμεν)....

Only Scripture gives an account of human origins that is not fudged!
Modern evolution struggles with a common humanity!
Some posit some kind of "Eve" figure so as to keep us together but it is fake.
Of course, the "Origins of the Species" was completely racist.

Scripture starts with unity!

2. God made all the "races" from that one human race!

Acts 17:26 And hath made of **one** blood **all** nations of men (πᾶν ἔθνος ἀνθρώπων) for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

Races and race are obviously different uses of one word. Races is probably not the best word since it is quite limited and limiting.

Thoughts:

A. There are many e groups / r if you prefer

ἔθνος = nation, gentiles, ethnic, ethnicity

How many?

B. The ethnic groups really are d

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