

# THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD & THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH

## 2. God made **all** the “races” from that **one** human race!

1. God created **one** human race!
2. God made **all** the “races” from that **one** human race!
3. God made **space** for each race!
4. God chose one race **through** which to save all the races!

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 ethnic groups / “races” if you prefer

ἔθνος = nation, gentiles, ethnic, ethnicity

How many? unknown

#### B. The ethnic groups really are different

Language	Culture	History
Food	Dress	Ways of doing things
Ways of thinking		

#### C. Those differences were present in Paul’s day also!

Galatians 3:1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Titus 1:12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.

Acts 17:21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

Acts 14:11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

Acts 28:1 And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita. Acts 28:2 And the barbarous (Οἱ δὲ βάρβαροι) people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

#### D. Nations are based on those differences!

#### E. God Himself made it so!

This is the emphasis of the verse – very positive

Positive: Table of the nations – Gen. 10

Negative: the Tower of Babel

We recognize sinfulness in every group **including and especially** our group

We also recognize beauty in all!

Psalms 118:23 This is the LORD’s doing; It is marvellous in our eyes.

### 3. God made **space** for each race!

**Acts 17:26** And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell (κατοικεῖν) on all the face of the earth (ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς), and hath determined (ὀρίσας) the times (προσπεταγμένους καιροὺς) before appointed, **and** the bounds of their habitation (καὶ τὰς ὀροθεσίας τῆς κατοικίας αὐτῶν);

Hath determined (ὀρίζω): to set boundaries, appoint, set, fix, set limits, determine...

Bounds (ὀροθεσία): boundaries, fixed borders, limits

To dwell (κατοικέω): live, reside, dwell, settle down

Habitation (κατοικία): dwelling, habitation, dwelling place

Several questions come up in this kind of discussion?

- Where did these differences come from?
- What did Adam (& Eve) look like?
- Where do different ethnic features come from?

Things we **know** about modern humans:

- **All peoples come from Adam and Eve**

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

**Therefore:** within the 2 (Adam & Eve) resided all the variation we see today. Specifically their genetics!

- **All people come more recently from Noah's sons & daughters-in-law.**

Genesis 10:2-5 Japheth

Genesis 10:6-20 Ham

Genesis 10:21-31 Shem

However, remember that these groups were mixed ethnically – early.

**Genesis 10:32** These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

- **The crystalizing of specific characteristics are the result of the tower of Babel and possibly continental drift**

**Genesis 10:25** And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.

**1 Chronicles 1:19** And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name was Joktan.

**Genesis 11:8** So **the LORD** scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

**Genesis 11:9** Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because **the LORD** did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did **the LORD** scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

Gene pooling accounts for the different characteristics → & it doesn't take too long for this to occur

- **God was (& is) both sovereignly and intimately involved in each nation / ethnic group**

**Amos 9:7** Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the LORD. **Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? And the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?**

**Deuteronomy 2:4** And command thou the people, saying, Ye are to pass through the coast of your brethren the children of Esau, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you: take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore: **Deuteronomy 2:5** Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; **because I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession.**

**Deuteronomy 2:9** And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; **because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.**

**Daniel 4:17** This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: **to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.**

**Daniel 5:18** O thou king, **the most high God gave** Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour:

**Daniel 5:19** And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

**Psalms 115:16** The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's: But the earth hath he given to the children of men.

**This would include things like:**

**Giving land**

**Establishing Kings & Kingdoms**

**Removing Kings and Kingdoms**

**Causing migrations**