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2019 BFA Conference Monday Luncheon

Healing the Ethnic Divide by Acknowledging the Incompatibility of Christianity and Racism Galatians 3:22-28

Introduction:

In our text Paul offers us an admonition of playing by new rules. He unlocks the old social rules and then reveals to us that Christianity and Racism are incompatible.

Two lines of truth will be explored: our old way of life only shackles us (vv.22-23) and, our new way of thinking sets us free (vv.24-28).

- I. Our Old Way of Thinking Only Shackles Us: Gal. 3:22-23
 - A. Uncloaking the old rules (v.23)
 - B. Our old ways of relating to others are prisons:

- II. Our New Way of Thinking Sets Us Free: Gal. 3:24-28
 - A. RACIAL discrimination is destroyed in Christ (v.28a, "*There is neither Jew nor Greek*")
 - B. CLASS discrimination is destroyed in Christ (v.28b, "*... there is neither slave nor free*")

C. SEXUAL discrimination is destroyed in Christ (v.28c, "... *there is neither male nor female*")

CONCLUSION: - BFA Churches, Let's Sound the Trumpet!!!!

What should every Christian politician, community & civic leader, and our BFA local churches be sounding the trumpet about?

1. Some people are racists because of parental influence – racism is learned behavior above all else.
2. Others are racists because of fear – we tend to fear that which we don't understand or that which is different from/than us (cf. Prov. 29:25, "*Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe*").
3. All racists are racist because of their sinful nature – it's in our sinful nature to desire to say and feel superior to others (cf. James 4:1, "*What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?*")
4. Finally, Christianity and Racism are incompatible – the two don't mix; we were all the same before we got saved, we were all saved the same way, we are all recipients of the same grace, mercy and love from God, and we are all viewed by God the Father as being in Christ His Son, and all equally and eternally indwelt by God the Holy Spirit.