

## **Profiling, racism and classifying people** by lcl

*Profiling is a fairly efficient way of making basic assumptions about things based on initial data that is supported by general background information. Just remember that there are exceptions to every rule, therefore, final decisions must be made cautiously after more detailed study and analysis has been made. Now, that I have your attention, let's explore this topic more in depth.*

*Recall, that it was God who first created the divisions in people.*

**Gen 11:1** And the whole earth was of one language and of one speech.

**Gen 11:2** And it happened, as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar. And they lived there.

**Gen 11:3** And they said to one another, Come, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.

**Gen 11:4** And they said, Come, let us build us a city and a tower, and its top in the heavens. And let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered upon the face of the whole earth.

**Gen 11:5** And Jehovah came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of Adam had built.

**Gen 11:6** And Jehovah said, Behold! The people is one and they all have one language. And this they begin to do. And now nothing which they have imagined to do will be restrained from them.

**Gen 11:7** Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they cannot understand one another's speech.

**Gen 11:8** So Jehovah scattered them abroad from that place upon the face of all the earth. And they quit building the city.

**Gen 11:9** Therefore the name of it is called Babel; because Jehovah confused the language of all the earth there. And from there Jehovah scattered them abroad on the face of all the earth.

*We also separate people, groups and things into categories to help us file things orderly in our minds. Brown eggs are packaged separate from white. Groups differ in beliefs, age, economic status, color, physical traits, where they live, what they eat, whether they have children or not, what type of houses they like, etc., etc. on and on.*

***But, why did God divide people to begin with? It was because they were not giving honor to Him, but instead were running amuck and away from god thinking wrongly that they could elevate themselves to Heavenly status and gain fame by building a tall tower instead of seeking God's will. God needed to change their thinking and confuse them by changing their language and, we believe, their appearance and color. It worked! People have been divided ever since on***

*every topic you can imagine. We even separated what god desires in His church, thinking that because we have a different spiritual gift or understanding from god or want to emphasize something that we feel has more merit to gain god's favor, we need to exclude other denominations somehow. Wrong! Granted, there are those who try to honor a totally different god from Christ. They will be judged accordingly by God's word after death. However, God calls His church to unity and tolerance and love for each other. He knows that each division has different strengths and weaknesses and He desires that we tolerate and learn from each other to become stronger and gain in His grace. Differences should be resolved by discussion and verification with scripture. But, I digress from the primary topic. Is classifying people really racist and a bad thing in its basic premise? After all, God created the races to begin with. Are we willing to argue with God? What we need to realize is why people were divided. Thus, we can take a godly view and correctly classify people in two basic categories:*

- 1. Those who honor God and follow His will.***
- 2. Those who do not honor God and follow something else.***

*All else is of little lasting value since eternity does not rest on the effort. Short term assumptions may help save some time, but must always be open for more lasting accurate judgements.*

*Even Jesus made an initial distinction based on Jew versus Gentile. But, He changed His general opinion based on the woman being an exception to the rule in that she honored god with a humble faith.*

**Mar 7:25** For a woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of Him and came and fell at His feet.

**Mar 7:26** The woman was a Greek, a Syro-phoenician by race. And she begged Him that He would cast the demon out of her daughter.

**Mar 7:27** But Jesus said to her, Let the children first be filled. For it is not right to take the children's loaves and to throw it to the dogs. (*Children being the Jews*)

**Mar 7:28** And she answered and said to Him, Yes, Lord, yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

**Mar 7:29** And He said to her, For this saying go, the demon has gone out of your daughter.

*Later, Peter was called by God to offer Christ and salvation to the gentiles. I think that this was done because God saw Jesus had initially been rejected by His own people and He wanted the Gentiles to witness and*

*show the Jews that Christ was the real son of God during the age of grace.*

Act 10:25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at *his* feet and worshiped.

Act 10:26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up! I also am a man myself.

Act 10:27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together.

Act 10:28 And he said to them, You know that it is an unlawful thing for a man, a Jew to keep company with or to come near to one of another nation. But God has shown me not to call any man common or unclean.

Act 10:29 Therefore I came without complaint, being sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me.

Act 10:30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour. And at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing. (*The man is often considered to be Christ*)

Act 10:31 And he said, Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your merciful deeds have been remembered before God.

Act 10:32 Therefore send to Joppa and call here Simon whose last name is Peter, he is staying in the house of Simon, a tanner by the seaside; who, when he comes, shall speak to you.

*Jesus also instructed the disciples to act differently to those rejecting their message. By so doing, he classified them.*

Mar 6:7 And He called the Twelve and began to send them out by two and two. And He gave them authority over unclean spirits,

Mar 6:8 and commanded them that they take nothing in *the* way, except only a staff; no bag, no bread, no copper in the belt,

Mar 6:9 but tying on sandals, and not to put on two tunics.

Mar 6:10 And He said to them, Wherever you enter into a house, abide there until you depart from *that place*.

Mar 6:11 And whoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Truly I say to you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

*Even though God would approve of these two classifications, He also instructs that those correctly honoring God should love,. bless and pray for those who do not.*

Mat 5:44 But I say to you, Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

*In the final analysis, we should classify people, as above, based on initial perceptions, but be open to re-classification as we more carefully seek the*

*truth of god in our relationships with others. Also, continue to follow God's golden rule:*

**Luk 6:31** And as you desire that men should do to you, you do also to them likewise.

*Also, follow God's primary objective:*

**Mat 22:37** Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

**Mat 22:38** This is the first and great commandment.

**Mat 22:39** And the second *is* like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**Mat 22:40** On these two commandments hang all the Law

**Mar 12:30** and you shall love *the* Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." This *is* the first commandment.

**Mar 12:31** And *the* second *is* like this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

**Luk 10:27** And answering, he said, You shall love *the* Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.