What the Bible has to say about racism

We live in a sinful and grievous world—a world where Satan attempts, and often succeeds, in taking what God has created and called good, and twisting it into something vile.

Diversity in every aspect is one of God's signature trademarks of Creation. He has made everything unique and distinct. He has incorporated every shape, color, texture, and form into what He has made.

But the enemy would have us use these beautiful differences to divide ourselves into "better" and "worse," "inferior" and "superior," "us" and "them"—and we fall for his lies. We are baited into warring with one another over something as meaningless as the pigment in our skin. In light of this, let's go back to some basic truths from God's Word:

1. Genesis 1:26 **"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.'"** We bear the image of God. When we destroy, damage, or denigrate others, we are also attacking God Himself.

2. Acts 17:26 **"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth…"** Everyone on earth shares a common ancient heritage. It's been said that "there is only one race: the human race" and when we consider our shared ancestry, we know it to be true.

3. 1 Samuel 16:7 **"For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."** To quote another adage, "It's what's on the inside that counts." When we judge people by their appearance, we are not looking from God's perspective.

4. James 2:9 **"But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors."** To act from a place of prejudice is sin, plain and simple.

5. Ephesians 2:14 **"For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility."** Jesus is the answer. The world will not truly know peace unless and until it knows Jesus. He is the great reconciler, equalizer, and peacemaker