

# 1 PETER & IDENTITY: CHOSEN PEOPLE (Part 2)

## • Actions of God's chosen people (1:13-2:3)

1. Start with attitude adjustment (1:13; Ep 4:22-24)
  - Ready for action--"girded loins" or "cloak tucked in belt" (Ex 12:11)
2. Continue by fighting flesh (1:13; Ps 19:13; Ja 1:13-15)
  - Self-control--fruit of Spirit (Ga 5:22-23)
3. End with Christ's return (1:13; 1 Th 5:6-8)
  - Focus on His grace, not your goodness
4. Are different (1:14-16)
  - Not like your flesh--ignorant & disobedient (Ep 4:17-19)
  - Like your Father--holy (Le 19:2; 20:7)
5. Will be judged (1:17; Mt 25:31-46; 1 Co 3:10-15)
6. Don't save (1:18-21)
  - Jesus' perfect, planned propitiation saves (He 9:24-28)
  - We do good not to be saved, but because we are saved (Ep 2:8-10)
7. Are more & more loving (1:22)
  - Like Father (1 Jn 4:7-12)
8. Are born through Word (1:23-25; Ja 1:18, 21)
9. Aren't worldly (2:1)
  - Malice--wicked thinking; planned wickedness
  - Deceit--will to deceive; misrepresentation
  - Hypocrisy--self-delusion of inconsistency
  - Envy--covetous desiring
  - Slander--evil speaking; undermining authorities
10. Are developed through Word (2:2-3; He 5:11-6:2)
  - Sample God's goodness first (Ps 34:8)

## • House of God's chosen people (2:4-12)

1. Christ is Living Cornerstone--most important as first and perfect (4, 6-8; Ep 2:19-22)
  - Chosen by God & precious to one who is saved (Is 28:14-19)
  - Rejected by men & hated by one who stumbles (Ps 118:22; Is 8:11-17; Ac 4:8-12; Ro 9:30-33)
2. We are living stones (5)
  - To be priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices (Re 1:5-6)
    - Your life (Ro 12:1)
    - Your offerings (Ph 4:18)
    - Your praises (He 13:15)
    - Your good works (He 13:16)
3. Our unique position (9-10; Ro 2:28-29)
  - Chosen people (Dt 10:15)
  - Royal priesthood (Is 61:6)
  - Holy nation (Dt 28:9)
  - People belonging to God (Dt 4:20; 14:2)
4. Our unique purpose (11-12; Mt 5:16)
  - Declare praises of God to others (words in v. 9)
  - Live godly lives for other's benefit & yours (actions)
    - Sinful desires destroy house (Ro 7:21-25; Ga 5:16-21)

## • Charity not part of Roman culture

1. Only citizens have value; sick, poor, & slaves weren't citizens & had no value
2. Greek philosopher Plato said poor who cannot work due to sickness should be left to die
3. Roman philosopher Plautus said giving poor food just prolonged misery
4. Giving only done to get something in return (*liberalitas*)

# CRITICAL RACE THEORY

- **Distinguish ideology from real problems (racism, poverty, etc.)**

“The battlefield is everywhere, but especially where the young are being taught—from the elementary school to the university. The sins of the human race are being taught to them as the special depravities of the United States or of Western civilization.” (Thomas Sowell, Stanford University)

- **Assumptions in Marxism**

1. No God
2. No sinful nature
3. Evil/suffering due to oppression by powerful (rich vs. poor)

- **Themes of Critical Theory, Critical Legal Theory, & Critical Race Theory (CRT)**

1. Society made of oppressors and oppressed (race is prism to analyze America)
2. Language is instrument of power
3. Oppressed shouldn't adhere to cultural beliefs of oppressors (re-education needed)
4. Criticize all societal norms & dismantle them
5. Replace all systems with worldview of oppressors and oppressed (“systemic racism”)

- **Critical Theory**

1. No universal truths
2. Tear institutions down (God, family, nation, capitalism...)
3. Unrelenting attack on West alone
4. Started at Institute for Social Research, Frankfurt, Germany, 1937
5. Main theorists: Antonio Gramsci, Max Horkheimer, Theodor Adorno, Herbert Marcuse

- **Critical Legal Theory**

1. Law has biases for oppressors who created laws
2. Wealthy & powerful use law as instrument of oppression to maintain their position
3. Overturn society from legal perspective
4. Started at Conference on Critical Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin, 1977
5. Main theorists: Duncan Kennedy, Roberto Unger, Robert Gordon

- **Critical Race Theory**

1. Race is the prism to analyze all of America
2. Societal transformation needed because law privileges whites
3. Attacks Enlightenment ideas where law protects individuals pursuing their interests
4. Started at Harvard University in late 1970's
5. Main theorists: Derrick Bell, Kimberle Crenshaw

- **CRT & classical liberal ideas**

1. Questions individual rights: equal protection under law, free speech, property rights...
2. Racism explains inequality of outcomes
3. “White supremacy” not just white superiority; whites use economic, legal, social status to oppress
4. Not nation of individuals & communities bound by common purposes
5. Nation of groups based on race, class, & gender with claims of victimization

- **Success not evenly distributed—individuals, groups, nations**

- (Discrimination and Disparities by Dr. Thomas Sowell, Stanford U.)**

1. Multiple studies (Duke's Donald Horowitz; MIT's Myron Weiner)
2. Multiple variables/factors such as
  - Parental education
  - Parental attention
  - Socioeconomic level
  - Environment
  - Birth order
  - Intelligence
  - Priorities
  - Resiliency