

Psalm 98

¹ Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

² The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Psalm 98

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Psalm 98

⁵ Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

Psalm 98

⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together

⁹ before the Lord, for he comes to
judge the earth. He will judge the
world with righteousness, and the
peoples with equity.



Cultural Divide



What are we to make of

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**



and it's cry for

Social Justice?



**As worshipers of God,
we must seek justice for the oppressed.**

**As worshipers of God,
we must seek justice for the oppressed.**

- **Listen to the Cry for Social Justice**
we must understand the issue.
- **Look to the Bible**
What does the Bible say about social justice?
- **Live the Gospel**
How can truth with grace open the door to discuss the issue?

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice
we must understand the issue.

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice

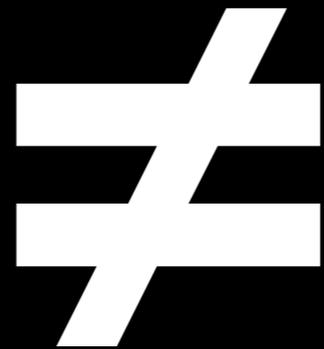
If one gives an answer before he hears,
it is his folly and shame.

Proverbs 18:13

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice

BLACK LIVES MATTER



“*only* black lives matter”

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice

BLACK LIVES MATTER



“black lives matter **too**”

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice

Did you know...

Blacks are

- stopped **10x** the rate of others.
- arrested **26x** the rate of others
- killed **5x** the rate of others

1

Listen to the Cry for Social Justice

*at the
heart of*

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER

is a

cry for

Social Justice

2

Look to the Bible

What does the Bible say about social justice?

2

Look to the Bible

Psalm 98

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Psalm 98

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equity.

2

Look to the Bible

Salvation means...*judgment?*

2

Look to the Bible

- **judgment** as the **plaintiff** ~~defendant~~
- **judgment** at *racial* level

2

Look to the Bible

Does

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER

have a Biblical case for
Social Justice

today?

2

Look to the Bible

Does
**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**
have a case?

- Slavery ended with the **Emancipation Proclamation** of 1862
- Segregation was settled with the **Civil Rights Act** of 1964
- A black man held highest office for past 8 years.

Is race still an issue?

2

Look to the Bible

Does

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER

have a case?

Maybe...

- the higher rate of black arrests is due to the **higher rate of black crime.**
- this isn't a race thing but a **breaking-the-law thing.**

2

Look to the Bible

Does

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER

have a case?

If there is a higher rate of

- black crime
- black poverty (24% vs 9%)

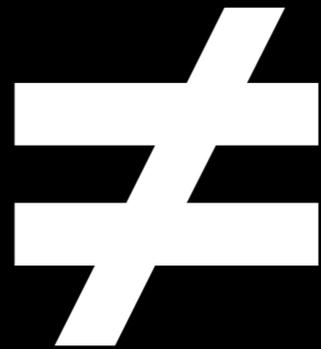
let's ask:

why?

2

Look to the Bible

Law change



Attitude change

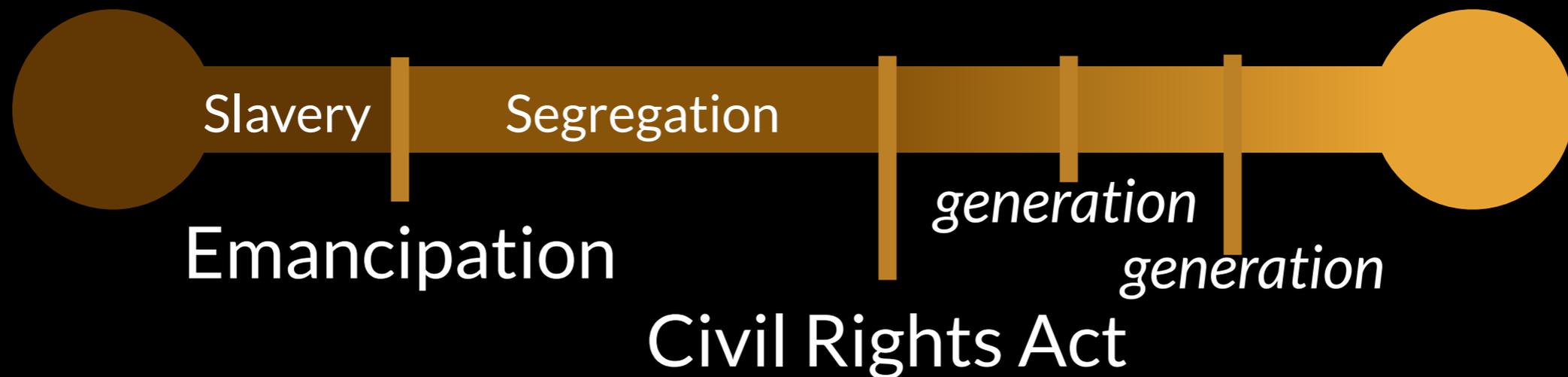
2

Look to the Bible

Attitude change takes **time**

Black \neq White

Black = White



2

Look to the Bible

And yet, there is still a disparity between black and white communities.

Few have stepped in to help bear the burden.

2

Look to the Bible

“...we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.

2

Look to the Bible

Amos 2:6–7

...I will not revoke the punishment, because they sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals—those who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth and turn aside the way of the afflicted...

2

Look to the Bible

Amos 6:4-6

“Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches...who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

2

Look to the Bible

What does the Bible have to say about

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER



2

Look to the Bible

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

is showing the kind of **grief**,
moral outrage and
concern that should be
coming from God's people.

3 *Live the Gospel*

3

Live the Gospel

The way you live in the world has bearing upon your relationship with God.

3

Live the Gospel

The way you live in the world has bearing upon your relationship with God.

To my white brothers:

- Repent of **turning a blind eye**, intentionally or not.
- Help **bear your brothers' burden**.

3

Live the Gospel

The way you live in the world has bearing upon your relationship with God.

To my white brothers:

- Give yourself permission to **engage with groups like BLM**, even though you can't agree with all of their guiding principles.

3

Live the Gospel

The way you live in the world has bearing upon your relationship with God.

To my black brothers:

- Do not let your **righteous anger lead to violence.**

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. (Ro 12:14)

3

Live the Gospel

The way you live in the world has bearing upon your relationship with God.

- Do not let your **restraint lead to bitterness.**

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." (Ro 12:19)

3

Live the Gospel

To *all* of my brothers:

Surely he has **borne our griefs and carried our sorrows**; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; **upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace**, and with his wounds we are healed. (Is 53:4–5)

how do I speak **TRUTH** with grace?

Live your faith.

Share your life.



2017 strategy: make outreach organic in the life of Cornerstone.