

Yokes on the Black Community

There are five core yokes of bondage plaguing the Black community...

1. The yoke of sin. Sins of the past and present continue to hinder us as a people. However, the acceptance of the sacrifice made for ALL men and the Blood Jesus shed for us destroys the yoke of sin and renders it powerless.

2. The yoke of religion. Yep, I said it! The old church understood ceremony and tradition but they did not have a true revelation of the liberty (2 Corinthians 3:17) that can only be found in Jesus. Today, we have a plethora of traditions that appease the flesh but create bondages that God never intended for His people. These traditions keep folks from seeing Jesus for Who and What He truly is.

(BTW, 1 and 2 are the centerpiece of my ministry and I know they are vital to yours as well. I'm pausing here so we can shout and move on, 'cause this is preachin' material, here! LOL!)

3. The yoke of slavery. 147 years after emancipation, Black folks are still stuck with a distorted self image. We still see ourselves as inferior to Whites (collectively, not individually). Too many of us are willing to sell others out to curry favor with the majority. We don't think in terms of entrepreneurship and ownership; rather, we are employees and lessors. We pine for the goodness of the plantation instead of possessing the land.

(OK, I was about to preach, there...)

4. The yoke of victimhood. Instead of seeing ourselves as victors in Christ (Romans 8:37), we persist as living as society's victims. If we can wrap our collective minds around what was accomplished by the Civil Rights Movement and the sacrifices that were required to achieve its outcome, coupled with the revelation of the Risen Christ, we'd have a change of heart. Now, white folks are conditioned to hearing our cries and have learned to filter it out. But recent immigrants to this country don't understand our struggle and are already growing weary of our pleas.

5. The yoke of misrepresentation. Black Americans are the only group who are represented by our worst elements. Our common vernacular comes from our least educated members. Our dress is that of street thugs, which, in turn, is derived from prison culture. Our “spokesmen” are “preachers” who support abortion and homosexuality and almost never invoke the name of Jesus when railing against the establishment.

I apologize for going so long here. But, as a father and a Pastor, I am frustrated by what I see and hear from my people. But along comes a Pastor such as Ray Whorton (<http://www.greaterworkslansing.com>) who give me hope. Pastors such as he start from the position of the power of Christ and use both humor and gravity to speak the truth, imparting life to a dying world and light to a world immersed in darkness.

God Bless You, My Brother, for bringing these issues to the fore!

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