

The Christian Student & Race Relations.

S.C.A.
Notes
18.6.61

Intro: 1) The whole question of race relations of vital interest to whole world. Everywhere countries are grappling with it in some or other form - whenever white & non-white meet: U.S.A., England, Holland, Africa (Kenya, Federation). But nowhere so urgently stressed as in R.S.A. - Position here more serious because of many other contributing factors - a) legal position next to human b) conflicting views of Churches

2) The challenge this issues to the Church & Christians: of a clear leadership required & to be given to other forces. If Christianity wants to build out its message of salvation and freedom, it must give an adequate answer to the question of race relations. The Christian student should be in the front line of the witness of the Church. How?

I. Knowledge:

A. Of Christ's views & principles:

First and primary importance: Knowledge of the mind of ^{God's} Christ as given in the Bible:

① The Nature of Man: God's vision of man, his sin, his depravity, his redemption - all men sinned, all men called to life, ^{God's} no respect of persons. The division caused by sin - the unity created by Christ.

2) The Unity of All Believers:

- What that unity is: only spiritual?
- How it is expressed: in acts of common worship, work & sacrifice
- Whether it wipes out all distinctions, all differences of culture, class, race, colour, nationality - What precisely do we mean by a "universal brotherhood of man"? And of Christians?

3) The Nature of the Church of Christ:

- Membership of people of diff. races to the same Church (Nt. witness) - the danger of two extremes. - separate Churches
- Their ^{present} division of Churches: is it God's will?

4) The Question of Mixed Marriages:

Has Christ & the Bible any guidance to give?

70.

5) The Biblical Concept of justice & love towards your neighbours:

- How this is expressed?
- How applied to legislation and human traditional attitudes in S.A. (Knowledge of facts)

II Contact & Discussion:

A) with other Christian students:

1) Draw Afrikanus groups & institutions:
What is present position? Discussion on Biblical grounds with students from UP, Pret. Teacher's College, Jhb'g Teacher's College

2) African Christian groups:

3) Coloured " " " "

III Corporate Christian Witness: This is perhaps the most difficult field -