

## WHAT ABOUT CROSS-CULTURAL AND INTER-RACIAL MARRIAGES?

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As one born in Africa and raised in Africa, I have dedicated most of my life to serving Africans and I have travelled throughout this continent ministering in 30 countries. I was brought up amongst the Matabele in Zimbabwe and have many Zulu, Chichewa, Moru, Nuba and Nigerian friends.

I have seen numerous cross-cultural marriages, and generally speaking, all parties involved come to regret it.

For centuries, actually millenniums, interracial marriage was either illegal, strongly discouraged or frowned upon. However in the latter part of the 20 th century, and now at the beginning of the 21 st century, Hollywood and the news media have bombarded us with images and propaganda to promote all manner of previously unacceptable conduct, including interracial marriages. Nowhere has this been more intense than in South Africa over the last two decades. It often seems like two out of every three advertisements have a black male and a white female. Numerous New World Order Advocates openly say that mixed marriages are necessary to eradicate the whites in future generations.

Those of us who have pastoral responsibilities and have had to counsel numerous relationships are well aware of the catastrophic consequences of interracial and cross-cultural marriages. The divorce rate and instances of domestic violence are far more common in such unions. And the conflicts with in-laws more intense.

Marriage does not just involve two people but two families. It affects generations to come. Generally speaking, two people from different races, or cultures, getting married are not honouring their parents and seldom are they considering the consequences for the children. The children will belong to neither the race of the mother, nor of the father.

For hundreds of generations our ancestors married within their race, or none of us would exist. But now Europe is in danger of being swamped by multitudes of non-Europeans, especially Muslims.

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Perhaps the situation does not seem quite as serious to people living in Europe right now. However, for those of us who are a small minority, a severely persecuted minority, in Africa, the consequences of being swamped by other cultures is all too acute.

I have discussed this matter with numerous pastors, theologians and authors throughout South Africa, in Europe and in America. Almost every one of them has agreed that the social and domestic consequences of interracial and inter-cultural marriages are disastrous. Most also agreed that they believed that such unions were unbiblical. However, only a few were willing to speak out openly against it, from the pulpit, or in counselling. There are a number of fine missions in Africa, experiencing Spiritual Revival, whose founders and directors have told me directly that they never have, and never will, marry people of different races, as they believe that to be sin.

I have many friends of all races. However, to marry across the colour line would be to me to betray my parents and all of our ancestors, and my children and future generations. Most importantly I believe it would be a betrayal to Almighty God, who has set the boundaries between nations.

For your further study you may want to see a Bible study that I wrote on [\*\*Unequally Yoked\*\*](#) and an article by a missionary friend of ours on

[\*\*Intercultural Dating and Marriage\*\*](#)

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Although the Bible study deals primarily with the Scriptures foridding marriage with unbelievers, you will see that many of the Scriptures are very specific about marriage with other nations as well.

Please do note the dictionary definitions and the Order of Service requirements for marriage from the Book of Common Prayer.

On our adventure of Discipleship, we continually have to put our personal emotions to one side and chose to obey God's Word first and foremost.

Peter Hammond

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