

# Unfinished Business

## *"Racism & Justice"*

(James 2:1-9)

- Introduction:
1. We are living in turbulent times.
  2. It reminds me of Dickens, "A Tale of Two Cities" which began by saying, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."
  3. We have witnessed so many advancements in our lifetime (medical, technological, educational, etc.).
  4. However, we are digressing morally.
  5. Part of that moral digression deals with racism.
  6. The purpose of this lesson is to call people to love justice, which will eliminate racism.

### I. Hear God's Word

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|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. (Leviticus 19:15).   | G. (Proverbs 21:3).   |
| B. (Deuteronomy 16:20). | H. (Proverbs 31:8-9). |
| C. (Deuteronomy 27:19). | I. (Isaiah 1:17).     |
| D. (Micah 6:8).         | J. (Isaiah 61:8).     |
| E. (Psalm 106:3).       | K. (Hosea 12:6).      |
| F. (Psalm 33:5).        | L. (Matthew 23:23).   |

### II. Practice God's Word

- A. (James 2:1-9).
- B. The problem with some is that they aren't pursuing justice, but their own agenda.
- C. Martin Niemöller (1892–1984).
  1. He spent seven years in a concentration camp.
  2. "First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out— Because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out— Because I was not a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out— Because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me."

### III. Proclaim God's Word

- A. Have you considered how these dark times might be an open door for the gospel.
- B. (1 Corinthians 16:9).
- C. (Philippians 2:15).
- D. (Isaiah 11:1-9).

- Conclusion:
1. While many people feel overwhelmed by hopelessness by all the hatred and racism in our society, I see an open door to allow the light of the gospel to be more clearly seen.
  2. While we cannot control the way the world lives, we can control life in the kingdom, and may our lives reflect the love and justice for which so many long.