

GOD AND POLITICS

Part 3: A Republican, a Democrat, and Jesus Walked into a Bar

1) Set aside

—

“His brothers said to him, “Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?” So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.”

--Genesis 37:8 (NRSV)

“But here is the even harder truth: anyone who is angry with his brother will be judged for his anger. Anyone who taunts her friend, speaks contemptuously toward her, or calls him “Loser” or “Fool” or “Scum,” will have to answer to the high court. And anyone who calls his brother a fool may find himself in the fires of hell.”

--Matthew 5:22 (The Voice)

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³² Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”

--Ephesians 4:31-32 (NRSV)

2) See

inside

—

“for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

--1 Samuel 16:7 (NRSV)

“So God created humans in his image,”

--Genesis 1:27 (NRSV)

3) Sit

unified

—

“Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples”

--Matthew 10:1 (NRSV)

“How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!”

--Psalm 133:1

“JESUS IS THE EMBODIMENT OF OUR PEACE, SENT ONCE AND FOR ALL TO TAKE DOWN THE GREAT BARRIER OF HATRED AND HOSTILITY THAT HAS DIVIDED US SO THAT WE CAN BE ONE. 15 HE OFFERED HIS BODY ON THE SACRIFICIAL ALTAR ... TO CREATE IN HIS BODY ONE NEW HUMANITY FROM THE TWO OPPOSING GROUPS, THUS CREATING PEACE.

--EPHESIANS 2:14-15 (THE VOICE)