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To The Ends Of The Earth: United By Faith In Jesus

Acts 11:1-3 - *Soon the news reached the apostles and other believers in Judea that the Gentiles had received the word of God. ² But when Peter arrived back in Jerusalem, the Jewish believers criticized him. ³ “You entered the home of Gentiles and even ate with them!” they said.*

They Forgot About The More Important Things

Micah 6:6-8 - *What can we bring to the LORD? Should we bring him burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of yearling calves? ⁷ Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins? ⁸ No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.*

Matthew 23:24 - *Blind guides! You strain your water so you won’t accidentally swallow a gnat, but you swallow a camel!*

Mark 2:16 - *But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, “Why does he eat with such scum?”*

Gentiles Could Come Directly Under The New Covenant Without Coming First Under The Old Covenant

Galatians 3:26-28 - *For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

1. The Vision From God.
2. The Witness Of The Spirit.
3. The Witness Of The Word.

It Wasn’t Just A Matter Of Religion, But Of Culture; And Cultural Habits Are Very Hard To Change

IN CLOSING,

Acts 11:18 - *When the others heard this, they stopped objecting and began praising God. They said, "We can see that God has also given the Gentiles the privilege of repenting of their sins and receiving eternal life."*

The Holy Spirit Had Guided Them Into A New Understanding Of Truth

John 16:13 - *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth...*

Praising God That God Had Given The Gentiles The Privilege Of Turning From Sin And Receiving Eternal Life They Were Sensitive Enough To God To Receive What God Was Doing

Genesis 12:3 - *...All the families on earth will be blessed through you.*

Isaiah 49:6 - *He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."*

Zechariah 2:11 - *Many nations will join themselves to the LORD on that day, and they, too, will be my people. I will live among you, and you will know that the LORD of Heaven's Armies sent me to you.*

It's So Important To Strive For Unity Within Diversity