03-23-2025

To The Ends Of The Earth: God Shows No Favoritism

Acts 10:24-33 - *They arrived in Caesarea the following day. Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends.* 25 *As Peter entered his home, Cornelius fell at his feet and worshiped him.* 26 *But Peter pulled him up and said, "Stand up! I'm a human being just like you!"* 27 *So they talked together and went inside, where many others were assembled.* 28 *Peter told them, "You know it is against our laws for a Jewish man to enter a Gentile home like this or to associate with you. But God has shown me that I should no longer think of anyone as impure or unclean.* 29 *So I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. Now tell me why you sent for me."* 30 *Cornelius replied, "Four days ago I was praying in my house about this same time, three o'clock in the afternoon. Suddenly, a man in dazzling clothes was standing in front of me.* 31 *He told me, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your gifts to the poor have been noticed by God!* 32 *Now send messengers to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. He is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner who lives near the seashore.'* 33 *So I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here, waiting before God to hear the message the Lord has given you."*

The Vision Was From God And Was About People

Acts 10:34-43 - *Then Peter replied, "I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism.* 35 *In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right.* 36 *This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.* 37 *You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism.* 38 *And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.* 39 *"And we apostles are witnesses of all he did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a cross,* 40 *but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear,* 41 *not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.* 42 *And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead.* 43 *He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name."*

1) **The All-Inclusive Application Of Christ's Work On The Cross.**
2) **The Universal Gift Of The Gospel.**

Ephesians 6:9 - *Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.*

Colossians 3:25 - *But if you do what is wrong, you will be paid back for the wrong you have done. For God has no favorites.*

James 2:1, 9 - *My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?* [9] *But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.*

1 Peter 1:17 - *And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents."*

Disciples Of Christ Don't Show Favoritism Based On Ethnicity, Status, Or Anything Because God Doesn't

Christ Came To Judge

2 Timothy 4:1 - *I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom:*

Christ Came To Forgive Sin

John 3:16 - *For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

Acts 10:44-48 - *Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message.* [45] *The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles, too.* [46] *For they heard them speaking in other tongues and praising God. Then Peter asked,* [47] *"Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?"* [48] *So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for several days.*

Use Your Gifts, But Trust In The Power Of The Spirit

Cornelius Needed Peter As Much As Peter Needed Cornelius