As Many As The Lord Our God Shall Call To Himself Part II

Tony Mauck · Acts 10:1–48

INTRODUCTION

- And so tonight I really want to focus on this phrase, who are afar off.
- Cornelius, a Gentile, one who was afar off, was the first of those who were afar off to embrace the promise.
- But now in Christ Jesus, you who were formerly far off, have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

1 A Great Choice as the First Gentile

Acts 10:2

- He was a great choice as the first Gentile to be called by the gospel.
- He was a centurion. He was a man of some rank in the Italian cohort, but he was a devout man, and one who feared God with all his household.

2 Households Baptized: Assuming What They Cannot Prove

Acts 16:15; Acts 16:33; Acts 10:33

- People are assuming what they cannot prove. When they use these passages to justify the baptizing of infants and children.
- So we're not talking about little children, but talking about those who can actually respond in faith to the message of the gospel.
- It goes against the grain of the entire New Testament and what it says about conversion of the Lord to use Acts chapter 10 or Acts chapter 16 to try to teach a subject like infant baptism.

3 Cornelius's Attributes That We Can Imitate

Ecclesiastes 12:13; Romans 3; Acts 24

- It says that he feared God.
- One day they're going to stand before God to give an account of their lives.
- Not only did this man fear God, he was a giving person who cared about the less fortunate.
- He was a devout man who prayed continually. Here was a man who recognized his God dependence.
- We see the heart of a man who can do that. Who is lowly in mind, not full of himself. And he's ready to hear the word of the Lord.

4 Peace Through Jesus Christ, Lord of All

Acts 10:34–43; Philippians 2:9

- I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality. But in every nation, the man who fears him and does what is right, is welcome to him.
- Everyone who believes in him receives the forgiveness of sins.
- It means signing on to serve him and to be his disciple because of who he is, because he has a name that is above every name.

5 The Holy Spirit Fell Upon Them as a Sign

Acts 10:44–48; Acts 19:1–6; Acts 11:14–18

- While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.
- They were saved by Holy Spirit baptism, some people teach. Well, the text doesn't say that.
- As a sign. The Holy Spirit fell upon them as it did upon us in the beginning.
- He shall speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household. You see, it's the message that he hears that's going to lead to his redemption.
- God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life.

6 Be Assured of the Results

Matthew 13:11; Titus 3:4–5; Proverbs 11:20

- We can have every confidence in this because of our sovereign God who grants us this opportunity to embrace his message.
- God saved us. Not on the basis of deeds that we have done in righteousness, not on the basis of our own merits, but because of his mercy.
- It is by God's doing, it is by his doing that we are in Christ Jesus.
- We're only a part of this because God has granted us a place in his glorious kingdom.
- If we would pursue blamelessness in our walk, we will be a delight to our God.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you embraced the promise? Can we help you to do so while we stand and sit?

MY NOTES