



Series: Power From On High.
Title: Salvation To The Gentiles,
Part 2
Lesson: 61

Text: Acts 10:17-33
Date: Dec. 3, 2023

Another detail that shows the gospel is for everyone:

Genesis 6:10 Noah became the father of three sons:
Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to
them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.

Genesis 6:10 Noah became the father of three sons:
Shem, Ham, and Japheth.



“Ethiopian eunuch” was a descendent of Ham.

“Saul of Tarsus” was a descendent of Shem.

Gen. 11: 26 - Abraham was in the line of Shem.

Luke 3:36 - Jesus was in the line of Shem.

“Cornelius” was a descendant of Japheth.

God chose these three men to represent the three lines of Noah’s sons in order to show that the gospel has no boundaries.

Genesis 9:27 “May God enlarge Japheth, And let him dwell in the tents of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant.”

- Japheth represents the Gentiles.
- Shem represents the Jews.

The prophecy predicts that the Gentiles will be invited into the Jew’s tent to share in all the blessings and privileges of that God promised them.

Jesus indicated that His work would be extended beyond the Jewish people to the Gentiles.

John 10:16 “I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd.

God sovereignly orchestrates salvation.

The reason this must be true is human depravity.

Jeremiah 17:9 ... man’s heart is deceitful and desperately wicked”

Psalms 51:5, Psalm 58:3 ... man is born dead in his transgressions and sin

Ephesians 2:1-5 ... man is held captive to his love of sin

Romans 3:10 ... we will not seek God on our own

John 3:19 ... man loves darkness

1 Cor. 2:14 ... we cannot understand the things of God

Rom 1:18 ... man surpasses the truth in unrighteousness and continues to live willfully in sin

1 Cor. 1:18 ... we see the gospel as foolishness

Romans 8:7 ... our flesh is hostile toward God so it will not subject itself to God’s law nor is it able to do so

A. God prepared Cornelius (1-8)

Cornelius was a “God-fearer” and was seeking God but was not a believer.

B. God prepared Peter (9-20)

The vision showed Peter two realities.

1. There was a shift from the Jewish age to the church age.
2. There was no place for the Jew’s sinful bigotry against the Gentiles nor for any people groups.

17 Now while Peter was greatly perplexed in mind as to what the vision which he had seen might be, **behold**, the men who had been sent by Cornelius, having asked directions for Simon’s house, appeared at the gate; 18 and calling out, they were asking whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was staying there.

“**behold**” - appears 5 times (17, 19, 21, 30, 11:11)

What are we supposed to “behold?”

1. It reveals the shocking plan of God that the gospel was going to the Gentiles.
2. It punctuates the fact that every single detail of the event was supernatural.

God's providence leaves nothing to _____.

19 While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the **Spirit** said to him, "**Behold**, three men are looking for you. 20 "But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself."

"behold"

God's _____ is perfect.

Point - All events and circumstances take place in God's time.

"misgivings"

This is true in each of the salvation scenes.

Philip -

Saul -

Cornelius -

Did Cornelius send them or did God?

"for I have sent them Myself"

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

21 Peter went down to the men and said, “**Behold**, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?”

22 They said, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was **divinely directed** by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you.”

23 So he invited them in and gave them lodging. And on the next day he got up and went away with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

24 On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him.

26 But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am just a man.”

27 As he talked with him, he entered and found many people assembled.

28 And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.

"unlawful" - It means something that is taboo or forbidden

"abominable" 1 Pet 4:3

The OT ceremonial law did not restrict association with the Gentiles. It was a tradition added by the rabbis as stated in the Mishnah.

Notice the change of focus.

From the general to the personal

"a man who is a Jew" >>> "me""I"

Peter was no longer to consider **"any man"** unholy and unclean.

29 "That is why I came without even raising any objection when I was sent for. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me."

30 Cornelius said, “Four days ago to this hour, I was praying in my house during the ninth hour; and ***behold***, a man stood before me in shining garments,

Notice the precision of time - “Four days ago to this hour”

31 and he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. 32 ‘Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who is also called Peter, to come to you; he is staying at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.’ 33 “So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

Implications

1. God speaks to us in various ways.

A. Through _____ revelation (Creation)

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

B. Through _____ revelation (Scripture)

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for

training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

C. Through _____

Ephesians 5:18–19 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

D. Through our _____

Romans 2:14–15 For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, 15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately ***accusing*** or else ***defending*** them,

E. Through _____

F. Through _____

G. Through _____

Prayer is mentioned 5 times - 10:4, 9, 30, 31, 11:5

James 4:2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because **you do not ask.**
Jeremiah 33:3 'Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

John 14:13 "Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

2. God leads us step-by-step as we walk by faith

in _____.

Philippians 4:9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, **practice** these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Hebrews 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of **practice** have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Personal growth depends on hearing and

_____ **God's Word.**

Discussion Guide

1. How should a full understanding of God's sovereign providence affect the way we live? How can you apply that to your life at the moment?
2. Is the truth that sanctification depends on obedience a new concept for you? Why is obedience so important in our sanctification?
3. Can you give an example when God's timing was unmistakable?
4. Can you think of an event or circumstance that God used in your life to move you in a different direction?
5. Would you be willing to serve in the prayer ministry on Sunday mornings during church?



ANSWERS: Ethiopian eunuch, Saul of Tarsus, Cornelius, chance, timing, natural, special, music, conscience, circumstances, people, prayer, obedience, applying

