

*In the true gospel
God is no respecter
of persons*

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And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear (1 Peter 1:17):

But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors (James 2:9).

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**Spiritual and Ethnic
attributes to God's elect
on a sin cursed earth:**

Acts 10:1-2 ¶ There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, 2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always.

From Acts 10:1-2, the Lord is purposely pointing to one of His born again elect, who's name was Cornelius. He was a centurion, *[a roman soldier]*, (Acts 10:7), of the Italian band. So this man, Cornelius, had two parts to his God given existence on the sin cursed earth: (1) Cornelius was a born again elect, and , (2), he was a soldier of a certain ethnic group, *[the Italian band]*. Through the Spirit of Christ, God would utilize and work through His chosen *Cornelius and his household of Italians*, to accomplished God's eternal will and good pleasure in His chosen *Peter who was a Jew* (Phil 2:13).

Acts 10:3-4 He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. 4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

Cornelius, a Roman soldier of the Italian band, was always in prayer to His Lord and Savior. And in the process of 'time', God, who is eternal, would answer Cornelius, according to God's own will and good pleasure. And when that happened, Cornelius's ears would become wide open to what His Lord would say unto him. Initially Cornelius would be afraid; because, through the spirit, Cornelius had already been made to understand his own sin and unworthiness, in himself, as a sinner before God. As the spirit of truth would work in Cornelius; Cornelius's only comfort and joy will show to be according to the word of God:

Acts 10:21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?

Simultaneously, through the Spirit, the Lord is communicating with Simon Peter of the twelve Apostles, and with respect to Cornelius. The Lord had spoken to Peter through a vision:

Acts 10:12-16 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. 13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. 14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. 15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. 16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

Like all sinners, Peter's initial reaction to God's word was DOUBT; for God had to tell Peter, thrice, [3 times], ... "what God hath cleansed, that, call not thou common":

Acts 10:17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

God will not be frustrated by any sinner. Ordained from before the foundation of the world, God, alone, will open Peter's eyes to God's truth; and, again, and again, it will always be according to all of scripture. God is going to use Cornelius, *a Roman soldier, and his house*, to hear God's word through Peter – a doubter (Acts 10:19). And in this manner, the true gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to go forward. It is the eternal Love of God that His mercy and truth shall be accomplished. Not because of the individuals, in themselves, who are doubters; but because of God's loving commandment abiding in them, who is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34):

Acts 10:19-20 ¶ While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

What a humbling message this might have been for prideful Peter (Matthew 17:4; Luke 4:8). Yet, through the spirit, God, alone, will make it good, (Ge 1:31); making Peter and Cornelius of one mind, and one heart.

Acts 10:25-26 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. 26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

As the Spirit of Truth works in Peter, Peter would come to understand, that, of himself, Peter, though an elect of God, is just a man [*a sinner*]. That is, '**in himself**', Peter is no different than any other sinner – while the sin cursed earth remains:

Acts 10:28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Through the spirit, and according to God's perfect will and good pleasure: God is teaching Peter aspects of the true gospel, Peter had not previously understood; while, simultaneously, God is guiding Cornelius, [*a Roman soldier of the Italian band*], as part of that teaching. Cornelius, who is not a Jew, yet under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, boldly declares to the Apostle Peter:

Acts 10:33-34 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

Cornelius, a Roman soldier of the Italian band, [*not a Jew*], by the spirit of God, boldly meets with the Apostle Peter, [*a Jew*], speaking as one body in Christ – because God didst it (Ps 39:9):

Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

Peter, who has been chastened and corrected by the spirit of truth, who is no longer subjugated by the lust of the flesh, nor the pride of life, now speaks the word of God that has been given to him for all nations to hear:

34 ¶ Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

¶ My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons (James 2:1).

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Thus saith the Word of God