



TIME OF GRACE®

The Power of Christ: For Racial Reconciliation

Study Notes

Acts 10:34-43: ³⁴ “Then Peter began to speak: ‘I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, ⁴⁰ but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. ⁴¹ He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’”

Points to Ponder

1. In what ways were Peter and Cornelius different? In what ways were they the same?
2. **Read Acts 10:34.** Who is God’s love for? Why do you think it took Peter so long to realize this? Hint: Think Old Testament.
3. Do you sometimes think that since you already have God’s Word you are superior to others? Or maybe better than others?
4. **Read Acts 10:42.** God commands us to tell others about Jesus. How can we do that if we’re afraid or suspicious of people who aren’t like us? We are alike—we’re all loved by God. In what ways can you reach out to others with God’s Word?

5. Do you believe that through God's love there can be racial reconciliation? How?

The gospel of Christ has enormous power for racial reconciliation, and our world needs it! You have been drafted into God's army to go out and tell all people about God's love for them in Jesus. All people have worth and purpose in Christ. All are equal in God's eyes, and you can create a community of trust and tell others the gospel message.

What else does God say?

1 Corinthians 12:13: We were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Galatians 3:28: There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Homework for Next Week

Read Acts 3:17-26.