

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Was Cornelius a Saved Man or Just a Good Man?

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

The Mosaic Covenant was given to Israel, “And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them and keep, and do them. The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb (Mt. Sinai). The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, who are all of us here alive this day” (Deuteronomy 5:1-3). The Gentiles did not receive the Mosaic Law. Paul makes this fact known, “For when the Gentiles which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves” (Romans 2:14). Gentiles were subject to the Patriarchal Law until Jesus came and gave the Law of Christ unto all mankind, Jew and Gentile alike, “And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them, that are under the law as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; To them that are without law as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ) that I might gain them that are without law” (I Corinthians 9:20-21). Cornelius was under the Patriarchal Law, not the Mosaic Law and the Gospel of Christ had not yet been preached to the Gentiles.

Living by the Patriarchal Law, Cornelius was, “A devout man and one that feared God, which gave much alms to the people and prayed to God always” (Acts 10:2). Concerning the fear of God, Moses wrote, “And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God to walk in all his ways and to love him and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul” (Deuteronomy 10:12). Cornelius was a praying man. This pleases God, “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6). Cornelius was a good man, but since the Law of Christ had come, to be a saved man, there were additional things Cornelius had to do.

An angel told Cornelius, “And now send men to Joppa and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter; He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side; he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do” (Acts 10:5-6). Cornelius told Peter, “Immediately therefore I sent to thee and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God” (Acts 10:33). After preaching the Gospel to Cornelius and his household, Peter asked, “Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord” (Acts 10:47-48). Cornelius was now, not only a good man, but a saved man. No wonder Peter later wrote, “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (I Peter 3:21).

No man can live such a good life that he can live without sin, “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). Thus, all men, need the redemptive blood of Christ. In baptism one contacts that blood and his sins are washed away. “And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).

—Larry Yarber

Response

Virgie Bartee came forward last Sunday confessing and repenting of the past sin in her life and that she wants to live a life that is well pleasing unto God. Virgie asked God and her brothers and sisters here to forgive her. Please give her your support and encouragement that will help her stay strong in the Lord.

Sympathy

Larry May’s step-mom passed away on Christmas Eve. She had been living with her daughter for the past 12 years. A memorial service is planned for her in Sudan either in the Spring or Summer. **Thelma** was 109 years old. We extend our sympathy to all her family.

Prayer Requests

We need to keep **James Drake** in our prayers as he is not doing good at this time. James has been struggling with COPD for a long time.

Betty Leeth (Devida’s cousin) who has been diagnosed with leukemia is in the hospital in Chillicothe, OH with the Covid 19 virus. She is having a rough time with it. Prayers are being requested for her.

Concerns Update

Phil Halbert is continuing to recover at home after having stents put in due to his heart attack on December 17th. Please continue to keep Phil in your daily prayers that he can get back to good health soon.

Prayer List

Maria Anaya; Wayne Anderson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Jon Cooper; Fred Dominguez; Doug Dowell; Kim Drake; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Phil Halbert; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. & Julie Munoz; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Gary Schwulst; Tom Siler; Sheila Stanton; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Janet Wesson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (True or False)

When Jesus said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again," she thought He was referring to the resurrection in the last day.

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

Micah was the prophet that predicted that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. (Micah 5:2)

Events Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Some Believe and Some Don't

After Paul's arrest in Jerusalem (Acts 21), he eventually traveled to Rome (Acts 28:16). After his arrival in Rome, he called the Chief Jews and explained to them why he was a prisoner (Acts 28:17-20). At a set day they later returned and Paul "expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening" (Acts 28:23). Their response to Paul's preaching is recorded in the following words: "and some believed not" (Acts 28:26). That sums up man's response to the gospel.

There have been in the past and there are those today who will not believe. Paul described these people in the following words: "Go to this people and say: Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you will see, and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn so that I should heal them." (Acts 28:27-28 NKV; CF. Matthew 12:14-15; Isaiah 6:9-10). They had completely closed their senses to God and His will. They were insensitive to the only message that could bring about spiritual healing. They refused to believe. The same sad spiritual condition exists today.

By way of contrast these were those who believed the message of Paul. Over and over again this contrast is seen in the preaching of the gospel not only in the first century, but today as well. There are those who, through the proclamation of the gospel, are brought to faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 10:17); that faith, then, manifests itself in obedience (James 2:17-26). The result is a soul cleansed and purified by the blood of Christ (I Peter 1:21; Revelation 1:5).

When the gospel is preached men find themselves either believing or disbelieving. The gospel is either a savor of life or death (2 Corinthians 2:15-16). To those who believe, the gospel is the fragrance of life. To those who choose to disbelieve it is the savor of death. Which are you?

—H. Randall Baker

January 03, 2021

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

Lords Supper

Scripture Reading:

A.M.

Jeff Wesson

Jaxon Straw

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Jacob Carson

Don Easlon

Doug Guynn

Josh Weakland

P.M.

Jeff Wesson

Oliver Hernandez

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Craig Wesson

Larry May

Bill Ryan

Tom Sorenson

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547— *Deacon:* Jacob Carson 940-3775 —
Pulpit: Scot Straw 288-4533— *Table:* Tom Sorenson 638-9447 — *Song Leaders:* Larry May
638-3990— *Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 — *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

(TBA)

Sunday PM

(TBA)

Our Records

Bible Class... —

Morning Worship--

Evening Worship--

Wednesday...—

Contribution... \$3,837.00

