

The Mindset of the Twelve Apostles – Part 2

Why didn't the Lord Jesus Christ return at the invitation given by Peter to Israel in Acts 3...? "Repent ye therefore, and be converted... And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:"

Acts 3:19-20

...Repent YE... And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto YOU

Part of that answer is found in Acts 7 with Israel's third strike after having rejected John the Baptist & then crucifying the Lord Jesus Christ... "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do ye*." **Acts 7:51**

...YE do always resist the Holy Ghost

The stoning of Stephen was a solid rebuke of the Holy Ghost that spiraled Israel into her 'blindness in part till the fullness of Gentiles be come in' (**Rom 11:25**)!

The second part of that answer is that of the long suffering of God kicking in with the conversion of Saul (Paul; **1Tim 1:16; 2Pet 3:15**), in Acts 9, that led to a gradual turning away from the Jew towards the Gentile and eventually to the HEATHEN... "Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it. And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves." **Acts 28:28-29**

...that the salvation of God is SENT unto the GENTILES

Peter's summons, by the Lord, to visit the Gentile household of Cornelius in Acts 10 is one of the most misunderstood conversions in the scriptures! I encourage the reader to take time to read the entire chapter, along with Acts 15, using a King James Bible. Though this chapter deserves a separate post, in of itself, in light of discussion found in Part 1 only a few selected portions are extracted.

To set the scene, both Peter & a devout Gentile, one that feared God with all his house, having good report among all the nation of the Jews, giving alms to the People and prayed to God always, got special visions from God for an arranged meeting.

Acts 10:28-29 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. **29** Therefore came I *unto you* without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

...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

... I ask therefore FOR WHAT INTENT ye have sent for me?

Acts 10:34-35 Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: **35** But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

...I PERCEIVE that God is NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS

...But in EVERY NATION HE THAT FEARETH HIM, and WORKETH RIGHTEOUSNESS, is ACCEPTED WITH HIM

Acts 10:44-48 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. **45** And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because

that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. **46** For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, **47** Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? **48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

...Holy Ghost fell on ALL THEM

...they of the circumcision which believed WERE ASTONISHED

...because that on THE GENTILES also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost

...he commanded THEM to be baptized in the NAME OF THE LORD

WHAT?! Great IGNORANCE is being revealed in this chapter, but on whose part? Was somebody asleep in the stern of a ship when the commissions were given in Mark 16 & Matthew 28 some 10 years earlier? What part of "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." & "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:", didn't Peter understand? Why did the Lord have to twist Peter's arm to visit Gentiles; shouldn't that have been a given? Why was Peter surprised when the Holy Ghost fell... isn't this what Peter was preaching (**Acts 2:38-39**)? And above all... why did Peter ONLY baptize in the 'name of the Lord' (as did Philip the Samaritans (**Acts 8:12-17**)) when clearly it should have been in the 'name of the Father, Son & Holy Ghost'?

There's a fine line between ignorance & stupidity and it seems as though this line is being crossed? But, crossed by whom? By Peter or the denominational system that can't discern between the preaching of Jesus Christ via prophecy (Peter & Company) to the JEW, from Paul's gospel... "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according TO MY GOSPEL, and the PREACHING OF JESUS CHRIST, according to THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY, which was KEPT SECRET SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN, **26** But NOW IS MADE MANIFEST, and by THE SCRIPTURES OF THE PROPHETS, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to ALL NATIONS FOR THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH:" **Romans 16:25-26**

Paul DIDN'T get HIS GOSPEL from PETER! "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me IS NOT AFTER MAN. For I NEITHER RECEIVED IT OF MAN, NEITHER WAS I TAUGHT IT, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." **Galatians 1:11-12**

What's really going on in Acts 10?

In Galatians we read... "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed. **9** So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." **Galatians 3:8-9**

...the scripture, FORESEEING that God would justify the HEATHEN 'through faith'

Prophesied was that Israel would one day be scattered among the nations and in particular among the HEATHEN. The HEATHEN is described in Deut 4:26-28 & Rom 1:18-32, where God gave them up & over to a reprobate mind. The Mosaic Covenant discriminated against the HEATHEN!

Deuteronomy 4:26-28 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong *your* days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. **27** And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be

left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you. **28** And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

...the LORD shall scatter you AMONG THE NATIONS

...and ye shall be left few in number AMONG THE HEATHEN

What WASN'T prophesied was through WHOM & HOW the HEATHEN would be saved that the scripture foresaw being justified 'through faith'... "For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, **2** If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: **3** How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, **4** Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) **5** Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; **6** That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: **7** Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. **8** Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; **9** And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:" **Ephesians 3:1-9**

...I PAUL, the prisoner of Jesus Christ FOR YOU GENTILES

...If ye have heard of the DISPENSATION OF THE GRACE OF GOD WHICH IS GIVEN ME TO YOU-WARD

...partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: **7** Whereof I was made a minister

...that I should preach among the GENTILES the UNSEARCHABLE RICHES OF CHRIST

...which from the beginning of the world hath been HID IN GOD

These Gentiles are the non-covenanted HEATHEN Paul began to ministry to in Acts 19 and MUST NOT be confused with the DEVOUT Gentiles, like Cornelius (**Acts 10:2; 13:16; 17:4, 17**), that Paul ministered to prior... "Delivering thee from the People, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom (HEATHEN) now I send thee," **Acts 26:17**; "And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that *WE should go* unto the HEATHEN, and *THEY* unto the CIRCUMCISION." **Galatians 2:9** That these converted non-covenanted Gentiles/heathen would be saved outside of Israel's influence was UNSEARCHABLE (not prophesied) & HID in God! This is the dispensation in which we live... "To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery AMONG THE GENTILES; which IS CHRIST IN YOU, the hope of glory:" **Colossians 1:27**

Here we see Paul's usage of the expression 'afar off', but in an entirely different light than with the Jew scattered abroad... "And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: **17** And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. **18** For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. **19** Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" **Ephesians 2:16-19**

...came and preached peace to YOU which were AFAR OFF, and to THEM that WERE NIGH

In context, the HEATHEN was AFAR OFF regarding covenant relationships as the Jew was NIGH!

The denominational system is doctrinally bankrupted lined with pulpits, blind to Pauline truth, that seem to be INCAPABLE of rightly dividing the word of truth (**2Tim 2:15**)... "In meekness instructing those that

oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;" **2 Timothy 2:25** Also, it's virtually IMPOSSIBLE to convey such right division outside via a King James Bible as denominations have abandoned to newer perversions.

In closing, this two-part series on the Mindset of the Apostles, the so-called 'Great Commission' (**Matt 28** 'Teach' all nations) will commence at the return of Christ and Israel's kingdom gospel of 'believe & be baptized shall be saved' (**Mk 16** 'Preach') has been REPLACED with Paul's gospel to the Gentile... "For by grace are YE saved through faith; and that not of YOURSELVES: *it is* the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest ANY MAN should boast." **Ephesians 2:8-9**

"But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word OF FAITH, which WE PREACH; **9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10** For with the HEART MAN BELIEVETH UNTO RIGHTEOUSNESS; and with the MOUTH CONFESSION IS MADE UNTO SALVATION." **Romans 10:8-10**