

**God's Kingdom is Open to Whoever Will
Trust in Jesus Christ: Part 3 – The Explanation**
*May 1, 2011 * Bethel Baptist Church * Tim Davis*
Acts 11:1-18

Review

God initiated the opening of His Kingdom to the Gentiles.
God invited the first Gentile family to join His Kingdom by
trusting Christ.

Preview

God brought unity between Jews & Gentiles in His Kingdom.

The Explanation: From the Big Picture to the Portrait

1. This passage marks the third consecutive time that Luke recorded this story. 10:1-23, 23-48, 11:1-18
Three times for clarity.
Three times for sincerity.
2. There were seven circumcised Christian witnesses who solemnly testified. vv.12-13
3. The Judean Christians were prejudiced against the Gentile Christians & condemning of Peter. vv.1-3
4. Peter responded humbly & carefully. v.4(5-17)
-He included his Jewish prejudice. vv.8-10
-He included details:
 where he was. vv.5, 12
 what he saw. vv.5-6
 what he heard. vv.7-9, 12-13
 what he said. vv.8, 15
 what God did. vv.5-17
5. The Judean Christians' hearts were changed by God. v.18
-They stopped their prejudiced objecting.
-They praised God.
-They recognized that repentance is a gift from God for anyone who will trust Christ.
-They declared that true repentance results in life.

Reminders for Us

1. Be mindful of your prejudices, & be prayerful about your judgments.
2. When you find yourself wrongfully accused or condemned:
 Keep your cool
 Stay humble
 Be careful
3. Regardless which side you find yourself, love God:
 Focus on Him
 Hold on to Jesus
 Keep your eyes on the Lord

So what?

God may give His grace to anyone, so I must share Christ with everyone!