

The Three Coverisions

From Acts 8, 9, 10

In these chapter we see the means whereby men of the three racial groups are saved.

- The man from Ham: a eunuch of Ethiopia
- The man from Japheth: a centurian of Italy
- The man from Shem: a Pharisee of Israel

I. What these men had in common

- A. All three were moral, upright men.
- B. Yet each needed to be saved.
- C. All required a personal witness to speak to them.

II. Their Outstanding Traits

- A. One reading the Bible – but this alone could not convert him.
- B. One heard God speak from heaven – but this alone could not convert him.
- C. One had a vist from an angel – but the angel instructed him to send for witnesses.

III. Their Differences

- A. Their racial origins
- B. Their occupations (three difficult classes to reach)
 - 1. One a politician
 - 2. One a theologian
 - 3. One a military man
- C. Their Locations
 - 1. One on his way home (in a vehicle)
 - 2. One going from home (at work)
 - 3. One at home
- D. Their objectives
 - 1. One looking for peace
 - 2. One destroying peace
 - 3. One a keeper of the peace

IV. The Need for a Witness

- A. Some, like the eunuch, want to be saved but do not know how.
- B. Some, like Saul, know how but actively fight it.
- C. Some, like Cornelius, need only to hear and will immediately respond.

V. After Conversion

- E. One is baptised and goes on his way rejoicing.
- F. One is baptised and immediately begins preaching.
- G. One is baptised and speaks in tongues.

First Instructions to New Believers

- I. Jesus Christ is worthy of one's full devotion.
 - A. He is to have all our love.
 - B. He is to have full use of our bodies.
 - C. He is to govern our every thought.
 - D. He is to be above all else in our lives.

- II. The word of God is worthy of our full confidence.
 - A. Feed upon it as a babe feeds upon milk.
 - B. Exalt it above all reason and prior learning.
 - C. Trust it before the words of any man.
 - D. Walk only in its ways.

- III. The fellowship of the saints is crucial.
 - A. There are no individual Christians, but all are one.
 - B. Each needs the ministry provided by the whole.
 - C. We are commanded, for our good, to increase the frequency of our gathering.

- IV. Instruction from godly ministers is required.
 - A. Must be under those who will watch for your soul.
 - B. Must be under those who can instruct you in the word.
 - C. Must be under those who can instruct you in your life.

- V. Engage in the testimony of Christ to His own
 - A. Once – to show our association with His victory over death: baptism
 - 1. All church converts in scripture were baptised
 - 2. No command anywhere that this should cease
 - B. Often – to show our union with Him after His victory over death: the Lord's supper
 - 1. The communion of the saints
 - 2. With Christ and one another
 - C. Continually
 - 1. Steadfast adherence to doctrine
 - 2. Fellowship: time spent together in temporal matters
 - 3. Prayers