**FOCUS** in 2020

November 1, 2020

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**The Gospel & Race**

***Race or Grace*** – Acts 10



I do not like...

Democrats, Republicans, Independents; I do not like Blacks, Whites, Asians and Hispanics and any other group for that matter.

No, instead...I **love** them!

My Mission - Develop well-balanced believers who **flavor** the world!

Five things we all need to do: Listen – Learn – Love – Live - Lead

**Race**

… a competition between two or more parties.

… a category of people who have been singled out as inferior or superior, often on the basis of real or alleged physical characteristics such as skin color, hair texture, eye shape, or other subjectively selected attributes.

**Grace**

… what you say at a meal.

… God’s unmerited favor.

*At Caesarea there was a man named* ***Cornelius****, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort,* ***a devout man who feared God*** *with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and* ***prayed continually to God***. Acts 10:1–2

*About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, “Cornelius.” And he stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?” And he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.” When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.* Acts 10:3-8

**Peter’s vision** – Acts 10:9-33

*And the voice came to him again a second time, “What God has made clean, do not call common.” This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.* Acts 10:15

*And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.* Acts 10:28

**Gentiles hear the Good News** – Acts 10:34-43

*So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.* Acts 10:34-35

*To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.* Acts 10:43

**The Holy Spirit falls on the Gentiles** – Acts 10:-44-48

*While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles.* Acts 10:44-45

Grace overcomes **race**.