

06/05/14 - God's Amazing Grace

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Acts 10:1-8

Cornelius (Acts 10:1ff.) was a good man. Admittedly, that is a remarkable statement since he was one of the hated Roman soldiers stationed in Israel to police the Jews. What is amazing in the story of Cornelius is that this man of great influence had influence with God! Luke says God took notice of Cornelius because of his prayers and gifts to the poor (v. 4b). Here was a man who had no knowledge of the law, yet God was aware of his righteous acts. Paul wrote, "when [those], who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, . . . They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts" (Romans 2:14a, 15a). This is an example of God's prevenient grace.

Prevenient grace is that grace which is experienced before a person comes to Christ. It comes into the life of every person to draw them to God.

- Think of ways God's love reached out to you before you knew Him.
- Remember when you experienced God's goodness while you were far from Him.
- Celebrate that God cared for you and moved toward you before you responded to Him.

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