

AN IDEAL AUDIENCE

Acts 10:29-33

INTRODUCTION:

- A. There are different types and kinds of audiences
 - 1. Indifferent, like Felix Acts 24:25
 - 2. Rebellious, like Stephen's Act 7:51
 - 3. Receptive, like Peter's on Pentecost Acts 2:41
- B. Attitude of heart determines results
 - 1. Four attitudes represented in parable of sower Lk 8:4-15
 - 2. Cornelius' attitude demonstrates the ideal Acts 10:33

DISCUSSION:

I. PRINCIPLE CHARACTERS OF THIS AUDIENCE

- A. Cornelius
 - 1. His civil relationship Acts 10:1 (chief captain of 100 men in Roman army)
 - 2. His character Acts 10:2,22 (devout = pious, an earnest wish to fulfill religious obligations) feared = revered God and generous in helping others; Just = righteous (fair or upright)
 - 3. His instructions Acts 10:5
- B. Family and near friends of Cornelius Acts 10:24
- C. Peter, the speaker
 - 1. Apostle with the keys to the kingdom Matt 16:19; Acts 15:7-9
 - 2. Go doubting nothing Acts 10:20

II. THE ATTITUDE OF THE AUDIENCE

- A. "We are all here" Acts 10:33
 - 1. Family (kinsmen), near friends; many were come together Acts 10:24,27,33
 - 2. Many today do not bring family or friends - some do not have enough influence over family and friends to cause them to want to attend
 - 3. Some seem to be ashamed to invite family and friends.
 - 4. Those who do are to be commended
- B. "Present before God" Acts 10:33
 - 1. God is everywhere Psa 139:7-11
 - 2. Where two or three are gathered Matt 18:20
 - 3. We need to be "God" conscious 2Jhn 1:9
- C. "To hear" Acts 10:33
 - 1. We are commanded to hear Matt 11:15
 - 2. Take heed what we hear Mk 4:24
 - 3. Take heed how we hear Lk 8:18
 - 4. Some do not attend to hear - but to see and be seen

- D. "All things commanded thee of God" Acts 10:33
 - 1. We are to preach the whole counsel of God Acts 20:27
 - 2. Speak as oracles of God 1Pet 4:11
 - 3. Only one gospel Gal 1:6-9; Rev 22:18,19
 - 4. Many audiences want special doctrines - want their ears tickled 2Tim 4:3,4

III. THE PREACHER'S MESSAGE

- A. God is no respecter of persons, God want all to be saved Acts 10:34; 2Pet 3:9
- B. Peter commanded faith in Christ Acts 10:43
- C. Commanded repentance Acts 11:18
- D. Commanded Baptism Acts 10:48
- E. Same as on Pentecost in Acts 2

IV. THE RESULTS OF THIS COMBINATION

- A. Obedience to the truth Acts 15:7-9
 - 1. They heard the gospel with the right attitude
 - 2. They believed and obeyed it
- B. Hearts were purified by faith that led to obedience

CONCLUSION:

- A. We are in this audience now. We are "here"
- B. The gospel has been preached. Have we heard?
- C. If we have the attitude of Cornelius, we will obey