ACTS UNHINDERED

Acts 9:32-11:30

"UN-PREJUDICED"

How does the gospel break down our prejudice toward others and build up a new perspective?

"I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit-- just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call--one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

- Ephesians 4:1-6

1. Not Unclean

"I should not call any person common or unclean" – 10:28

2. Not Favoritism

"God shows no partiality" – 10:34

3. Not Opposing God

"who was I that I could stand in God's way" 11:17

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"It took four successive hammer-blows of divine revelation
before [Peter's] racial and religious prejudice was overcome, as
he explains to the Jerusalem church ...
  the divine vision (4-10) [Rise, Kill and Eat] ...
  the divine command (11-12) [Go with them] ...
  the divine preparation (13-14) [Send to Joppa] ...
  the divine action (15-17) [Spirit fell on them] ...
                                                  - John Stott
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"Here, then, were the four divine hammer-blows which were all aimed deftly at Jewish racial prejudice, and especially at Peter's—the vision, the command, the preparation and the action.
Together they demonstrated conclusively that God had now welcomed believing Gentiles into his family on equal terms with believing Jews."

- John Stott

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The first "Christians"

Jerusalem to Antioch, and Antioch to Jerusalem