



## 22 - MAKING GOD'S DIVERSITY DREAM COME TRUE - Part 2

### 5 ESSENTIALS TO MAKE GOD'S DIVERSITY DREAM COME TRUE

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ GOD ALWAYS DREAMED OF A DIVERSE KINGDOM.

*All the nations of earth will be blessed by your offspring... Genesis 22:18 WEB*

*I looked again. I saw a huge crowd, too huge to count. Everyone was there—all nations and tribes, all races and languages. And they were standing, dressed in white robes and waving palm branches, standing before the Throne and the Lamb... Revelation 7:9a MP*

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ MY CURRENT LENS IN FAVOR OF THE LENS OF CHRIST.

*At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. Acts 10:1*

*He and his family were good people and honored God. He gave much money to the people and prayed always to God. <sup>3</sup> One afternoon about three o'clock he saw in a dream what God wanted him to see. An angel of God came to him and said, "Cornelius." <sup>4</sup> He was afraid as he looked at the angel. He said, "What is it, Lord?" The angel said, "Your prayers and your gifts of money have gone up to God. He has remembered them. Acts 10:2-4 NLV*

#### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ STUBBORN PRIDE WITH HUMBLE OBEDIENCE.

*The next day they went on their way. About noon they were coming near the town. At this time Peter went up on the roof to pray. <sup>10</sup> He became very hungry and wanted something to eat. While they were getting food ready to eat, he saw in a dream things God wanted him to see. <sup>11</sup> He saw heaven open up and something like a large linen cloth being let down to earth by the four corners. <sup>12</sup> On the cloth were all kinds of four-footed animals and snakes of the earth and birds of the sky. <sup>13</sup> A voice came to him, "Get up, Peter, kill something and eat it." <sup>14</sup> Peter said, "No, Lord! I have never eaten anything that our Law says is unclean." <sup>15</sup> The voice said the second time, "What God has made clean you must not say is unclean." <sup>16</sup> This happened three times. Acts 10:9-16 NLV*

#### 4. \_\_\_\_\_ IN GOD'S VISION AND \_\_\_\_\_ TO DO SO.

*Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what*

*is right. <sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all... <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ...<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. <sup>45</sup> The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. <sup>46</sup> For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." <sup>48</sup> So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus... Acts 10:34-36, 43-48*

#### 5. \_\_\_\_\_ WITH MY CRITICS BUT \_\_\_\_\_ TO CHRIST.

*The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him <sup>3</sup> and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them." <sup>4</sup> Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story... <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life." Acts 11:1-4, 18 NIV*

*But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. <sup>12</sup> When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile believers, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these people who insisted on the necessity of circumcision. Galatians 2:11-12 NLT*

*Sooner or later we'll all have to face God, regardless of our conditions. We will appear before Christ and take what's coming to us as a result of our actions, either good or bad... <sup>11</sup> That keeps us vigilant.... It's no light thing to know that we'll all one day stand in that place of Judgment. Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do. Our firm decision is to work from this focused center: One man died for everyone. That puts everyone in the same boat... <sup>16</sup> Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. <sup>17</sup> Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! <sup>18</sup> All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. <sup>19</sup> God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. <sup>20</sup> We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you. 2 Corinthians 5:10-20 (MP)*