

Acts 10:34-43ⁱⁱⁱ

Then Peter began to speak to them:

“I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
but in every nation anyone
who fears him and does what is right
is acceptable to him.

You know the message he sent
to the people of Israel,
preaching peace by Jesus Christ—
he is LORD of all.

That message spread throughout Judea,
beginning in Galilee
after the baptism that John announced:
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and with power;
how he went about doing good
and healing all who were oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;
but God raised him on the third day
and allowed him to appear,
not to all the people
but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses,
and who ate and drank with him
after he rose from the dead.

He commanded us
to preach to the people
and to testify that he is the one
ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

All the prophets testify about him
that everyone who believes in him
receives forgiveness of sins
through his name.”

ⁱⁱⁱ **About the Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43**

Today's reading is a part of Peter's missionary speech to the Gentile centurion Cornelius and his household. The conversion of Cornelius marks an important turning point in the outreach of the Church. Some Jewish Christians rejected and feared the possible inclusion of Gentiles in the Church, but Luke shows that Peter began the mission to the Gentiles under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Peter's sermon to the new converts is a summarized example of the basic preaching of the early Church. He begins with the activity of John the Baptist. Jesus' baptism is described as his anointing as Messiah "with the Holy Spirit and with power" (v. 38).