

## WHAT ABOUT THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER HEARD?

### Acts 4:10-12

**Introduction:** America is one country where the gospel has been presented in just about every way to every person. By television, radio, church services, retreats, books, tracts, pamphlets, door to door, revivals, movies and sadly the people in this country have become hardened to the Gospel. What about those across the world who have never heard the Gospel? They have never had the opportunity to believe in Jesus, how does God see them? Just how does God see those who have never heard the Gospel?

### I. GOD HAS NEVER HAD BUT ONE PLAN OF SALVATION

1. Contrary to what some believe and even teach, there are not several ways to be saved.
  - There is not one way in the Old Testament and another for the New Testament.
  - There is not one way for Jews and another for Moslems.
  - Whether one lives in a hut on the Amazon river or in a high rise apartment in New York, all are saved the same way.
2. *"What must I do to be saved...?"* was asked of Paul and he replied: *"...believe on the Lord Jesus and thou shalt be saved..."* There is no other way.
  - *"...not by works...but by His mercy He saved us..."* wrote Paul to Titus.
3. Human thinking says we can earn salvation as we can earn anything else.
  - Religion says that if we keep the commandments and rituals, we can get into heaven.
  - However, Jesus says: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man comes to the Father but by Me..."*
4. Salvation is clearly the matter of believing and receiving and Jesus is the center of salvation.

### II. GOD INTENDS FOR ALL PEOPLE TO BE SAVED

*"The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance..."*

1. Jesus never met an unimportant person!
  - All people are important, YOU, me, everyone in this world and Jesus wants us all to be saved.
2. Jesus died for ALL people of all times of all the world and God loves us all and wants us all saved.

### III. GOD HAS MADE HIMSELF KNOWN TO ALL PEOPLE AND NO ONE HAS AN EXCUSE

1. God speaks through His Creation. *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork."*
  - The most primitive person on earth can look up at the heavens and the earth around him and see the handiwork of God.
  - The knowledge of God is so universal and unmistakable that no one can ever accuse God of being biased or unfair. ALL ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE BEFORE GOD.

2. God speaks through our Conscience.
  - People deaf to sound can still hear the voice of God.
  - Blind people cannot see, but they can still hear the voice of God.
  - Man's problem in hearing God is within the heart, not with God.
  - It is rebellion, not lack of divine revelation, for man will NOT respond to the God he is aware of and knows.
  
3. God speaks through His Son, Jesus Christ.
  - ***"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son...who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person.."***
  - So, who/what is God like? He is like His Son, Jesus Christ.

#### **IV. GOD WILL GET HIS GOSPEL TO WHOMEVER IS WILLING TO RESPOND TO IT**

1. ***"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart..."***  
 - ***"Ask and it shall be given you.."***
  
2. A Roman Centurion, Cornelius, wanted to know more about God, therefore God sent Peter to him and he was saved. Cornelius responded to what he knew about God and God did the rest.
  
3. Whenever a person, no matter who or where responds to the light and knowledge he/she has, God will see to it somehow that that person will have an opportunity to know about Jesus.

#### **V. THE CHURCH IS GOD'S MEANS OF TAKING HIS GOSPEL TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE**

1. It has been said that "it isn't fair for anyone to hear the Gospel more than once until EVERYONE has heard it once."
  - How can we say that we are saved and have never witnessed? Never shared the Gospel?
  - If every Christian had the same attitude as ME, would the rest of the world ever get to hear the Gospel?
  
2. ***"For whosoever shall call upon the Lord shall be saved..." (Romans 10:13)***
  - Can there be anything more clear than this scripture?
  - Is anybody left out? Is there any question as to who the center of salvation is?
  - Is there any question as to what happens when one calls upon the Lord?
  
3. ***"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?"***
  - ***"..and how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"***
  - ***"..and how shall they hear without a preacher?"***
  - ***"..and how shall they preach, except they be sent?"***
  - ***"..how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things."***

## CONCLUSION:

1. So what about those across the world who have never heard the Gospel? What about YOU?
  - You have heard the Gospel many times.
  - You have the full revelation of God in the heavens, the world around you and in Jesus.
  - You are not in a world of spiritual darkness.
  - NOW, you are responsible to the full light you have received and your need to trust Jesus Christ as your Savior.
2. God says it would be better for you to have not know the way of righteousness than to know it and turn away from the Gospel you have hard.
3. Before you can help others on the other side of the world know about Jesus, you must know Him yourself.
  - YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE NOT TO BELIEVE IN JESUS....nobody in our country does.