

Acts 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Analysis

The divine response - 'What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common' - declared God's sovereign right to determine cleanliness. The perfect tense 'hath cleansed' indicated completed action. God had already cleansed what Peter still called common.

Historical Context

This statement revolutionized ceremonial categories. What God declares clean is clean, regardless of previous classification. This principle would apply to Gentile believers.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does God's cleansing authority challenge human categorizations?
2. What does 'calling common what God has cleansed' look like in practice today?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	φωνὴ	πάλιν	ἐκ	δευτέρου	πρὸς	αὐτόν	Ἄ
And	the voice	again	G1537	the second time	spake unto	him	What
G2532	G5456	G3825		G1208	G4314	G846	G3739
οὐ	θεὸς	ἐκαθάρισεν	σὺ	μὴ	κοίνου		
G3588	God	hath cleansed	thou	not	common		
	G2316	G2511	G4771	G3361	G2840		

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 10:25 (Parallel theme): Whatsoever is sold in the shambles, that eat, asking no question for conscience sake:

Matthew 15:11 (Parallel theme): Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

Titus 1:15 (Parallel theme): Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

Mark 7:19 (Parallel theme): Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?

Romans 14:14 (Parallel theme): I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

Acts 10:28 (References God): And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Acts 11:9 (References God): But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Acts 15:9 (Parallel theme): And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Acts 15:20 (Parallel theme): But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

Romans 14:20 (References God): For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence.