

# Acts 10:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

## Analysis

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Peter's response - 'Stand up; I myself also am a man' - demonstrates appropriate humility and proper theology. Peter refused any special status beyond fellow humanity. This equality before God establishes that ministers are servants, not mediators between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5). Reformed theology maintains the priesthood of all believers - no human mediator stands between believers and God except Christ. Peter's humility here contradicts claims of papal supremacy developed later in church history.

## Historical Context

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This occurred circa AD 40-41 in Caesarea at Cornelius's house. Peter's Jewish background made him particularly sensitive to worship belonging to God alone (Exodus 20:3-5). His response established a pattern for Christian leaders - servants, not lords.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What does Peter's declaration teach about the equality of all believers before God?
2. How does this passage undermine claims of special human mediatorial authority?
3. Why is humility essential for church leaders and ministers?

## Interlinear Text

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ο δὲ Πέτρος αὐτὸς ἤγειρεν λέγων, Ἄναστηθι· καὶ  
G3588      But      Peter      him      took      saying      Stand up      I  
G1161      G4074      G846      G1453      G3004      G450      G2504

αὐτὸς ἄνθρωπός εἰμι  
him      a man      am  
G846      G444      G1510

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 19:10** (Parallel theme): And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

**Isaiah 42:8** (Parallel theme): I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

**Isaiah 48:13** (Parallel theme): Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

**Matthew 4:10** (Parallel theme): Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

