

# Acts 15:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

## Analysis

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James uses Peter's Hebrew name 'Simeon,' emphasizing continuity with Jewish faith while acknowledging Gentile inclusion. He summarizes Peter's account of God's visitation to 'take out of them a people for his name.' The Greek 'laos' (people) - previously reserved for Israel - now includes Gentiles. This demonstrates that the church, not ethnic Israel, is God's chosen people in the New Covenant.

## Historical Context

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James references Peter's experience with Cornelius (Acts 10, circa AD 40), the watershed moment when God first officially brought Gentiles into the church. This event preceded the current council by nearly a decade.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's election of a people from all nations fulfill His redemptive plan?
2. What is the relationship between the church and Israel in God's purposes?

3. How should the church's multi-ethnic composition shape our worship and witness?

## Interlinear Text

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Συμεὼν ἐξηγήσατο καθὼς πρῶτον ὁ θεὸς ἐπεσκέψατο

Simeon hath declared how at the first God did visit

G4826 G1834 G2531 G4412 G3588 G2316 G1980

λαβεῖν ἐξ ἐθνῶν λαὸν ἐπὶ τῷ ὄνόματι αὐτοῦ

to take out of the Gentiles them a people for name

G2983 G1537 G1484 G2992 G1909 G3588 G3686 G846

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Peter 1:1** (References God): Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

**Isaiah 43:21** (Parallel theme): This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

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