

The Best Apology: Hiding Behind God

Acts 11:1-18

March 28, 2021

What is an apology? Is it a biblical response to sin?

What is apologetics? A defense of the Christian faith.

Peter offers the best apology (apologetic) for his actions.

Peter hides behind God - His vision, the Holy Spirit, and the Word.

Eating with Sinners

Why did Jewish Christians think this was wrong?

What was their argument?

How did Jesus respond to this accusation? (Luke 7:34; 5:30; 15:2)

“Wisdom is vindicated by her children.”

Jesus answered with 3 parables: the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son.

“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

The ceremonial law is fulfilled in Christ, Jewish tradition, the clean and unclean laws have fulfilled their purpose in Christ.

“God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.”

What do we require of our new members besides genuine faith in Christ?

Peter’s Experiential Defense

When God says something once, it is enough.

So, I preached the same gospel that I have preached to Jews and Samaritans, and before I was finished speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles, just as it did on us at Pentecost.

If you are in an argument, what do you do?

“The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom.”

Peter’s conclusion in v 17.

The Church's Inevitable Response

They stopped arguing, they submitted to the Word of God.

Theology always ends in doxology.

Lessons

God will surprise you at times, follow him into the surprise.

God's plan includes more than just you, your people, your church.

When you see the Spirit of Christ in someone, rejoice!

The best apologetic is to hide behind God and his Word.