

# HERE I STAND

**Article of Faith # 7 – Prevenient Grace**  
**Article of Faith #8 - Repentence**

**Acts 10:1-7**

## *Acts 10:1-7*

*In Caesarea there lived a Roman army officer named Cornelius, who was a captain of the Italian Regiment. He was a devout, God-fearing man, as was everyone in his household. He gave generously to the poor and prayed regularly to God. One afternoon about three o'clock, he had a vision in which he saw an angel of God coming toward him. "Cornelius!" the angel said. Cornelius stared at him in terror. "What is it, sir?" he asked the angel.*

## *Acts 10:1-7*

*And the angel replied, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have been received by God as an offering! Now send some men to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. He is staying with Simon, a tanner who lives near the seashore."*

*As soon as the angel was gone, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier, one of his personal attendants. †*

# HERE I STAND

**Article of Faith # 7 – Prevenient Grace**  
**Article of Faith #8 - Repentence**

**Acts 10:1-7**

## Article of Faith # 7 - Prevenient Grace

We believe that the human race's creation in Godlikeness included ability to choose between right and wrong, and that thus human beings were made morally responsible; that through the fall of Adam they became depraved so that they cannot now turn and prepare themselves by their own natural strength and works to faith and calling upon God. But we also believe that the grace of God through Jesus Christ is freely bestowed upon all people, enabling all who will to turn from sin to righteousness, believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin, and follow good works pleasing and acceptable in His sight.

## Article of Faith # 7 – Prevenient Grace

**We believe that all persons, though in the possession of the experience of regeneration and entire sanctification, may fall from grace and apostatize and, unless they repent of their sins, be hopelessly and eternally lost.**

*(Godlikeness and moral responsibility: Genesis 1:26-27; 2:16-17; Deuteronomy 28:1-2; 30:19; Joshua 24:15; Psalm 8:3-5; Isaiah 1:8-10; Jeremiah 31:29-30; Ezekiel 18:1-4; Micah 6:8; Romans 1:19-20; 2:1-16; 14:7-12; Galatians 6:7-8*

*Natural inability: Job 14:4; 15:14; Psalms 14:1-4; 51:5; John 3:6a; Romans 3:10-12; 5:12-14, 20a; 7:14-25*

*Free grace and works of faith: Ezekiel 18:25-26; John 1:12-13; 3:6b; Acts 5:31; Romans 5:6-8, 18; 6:15-16, 23; 10:6-8; 11:22; 1 Corinthians 2:9-14; 10:1-12; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Galatians 5:6; Ephesians 2:8-10; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:21-23; 2 Timothy 4:10a; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 3:12-15; 6:4-6; 10:26-31; James 2:18-22; 2 Peter 1:10-11; 2:20-22)*

1. Cornelius had done nothing to *deserve* this *grace*.

1. Cornelius had done nothing to deserve this grace.
2. We believe that all humans have the ability to choose between right and wrong.

1. Cornelius had done nothing to deserve this grace.
2. We believe that all humans have the ability to choose between right and wrong.
3. The good news is that the grace of God is *freely given* to all *people*.

4. God's grace enables those who respond to Him to do the following:

A. Turn from sin to righteousness

4. God's grace enables those who respond to Him to do the following:

A. Turn from sin to righteousness

B. Believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin

4. God's grace enables those who respond to Him to do the following:

A. Turn from sin to righteousness

B. Believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin

C. Do good works pleasing and acceptable in His sight

*God saved you by his grace  
when you believed. And you  
can't take credit for this; it is a  
gift from God.*

*(Ephesians 2:8)*

## Article of Faith # 8 – Repentance

**We believe that repentance, which is a sincere and thorough change of the mind in regard to sin, involving a sense of personal guilt and a voluntary turning away from sin, is demanded of all who have by act or purpose become sinners against God. The Spirit of God gives to all who will repent the gracious help of penitence of heart and hope of mercy, that they may believe unto pardon and spiritual life.**

*(2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalms 32:5-6; 51:1-17; Isaiah 55:6-7; Jeremiah 3:12-14;  
Ezekiel 18:30-32; 33:14-16; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 3:1-14; 13:1-5; 18:9-14;  
Acts 2:38; 3:19; 5:31; 17:30-31; 26:16-18; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:8-11;  
1 Thessalonians 1:9; 2 Peter 3:9)*

## *Acts 12:9-19*

*“I used to believe that I ought to do everything I could to oppose the very name of Jesus the Nazarene. Indeed, I did just that in Jerusalem. Authorized by the leading priests, I caused many believers there to be sent to prison. And I cast my vote against them when they were condemned to death. Many times I had them punished in the synagogues to get them to curse Jesus. I was so violently opposed to them that I even chased them down in foreign cities.*”

## *Acts 12:9-19*

*“One day I was on such a mission to Damascus, armed with the authority and commission of the leading priests. About noon, Your Majesty, as I was on the road, a light from heaven brighter than the sun shone down on me and my companions. We all fell down, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is useless for you to fight against my will.’ ‘Who are you, lord?’ I asked. And the Lord replied, ‘I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. Now get to your feet!*

## *Acts 12:9-19*

*“ ‘For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and witness. Tell people that you have seen me, and tell them what I will show you in the future. And I will rescue you from both your own people and the Gentiles. Yes, I am sending you to the Gentiles to open their eyes, so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then they will receive forgiveness for their sins and be given a place among God’s people, who are set apart by faith in me.’ And so, King Agrippa, I obeyed that vision from heaven.” †*

5. It takes more than sorrow for us to be saved.

5. It takes more than sorrow for us to be saved.

6. Repentance – confession + turning away

*God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him.*

*(Acts 17:30)*

# HERE I STAND

**Article of Faith # 7 – Prevenient Grace**  
**Article of Faith #8 - Repentence**

**Acts 10:1-7**