

Acts of the Apostles 10:1-35_ Lesson 26

Peter Sent to a Gentile

1. Acts 10 – Introduction

- a. Acts goes from Peter (Acts 1-8) to Paul/Peter (Mid-Acts) to Paul (Acts 16-28)
- b. Peter going to a Gentile is a common objection to a Mid-Acts Pauline foundation
 - i. It is a poor objection – objections must be found in Acts 1-8, not mid-Acts.
 - ii. New and simple believers stumble and fall over Acts 10, read slowly.
 - iii. Any mystery truth due to God’s change, anything Israel due to Acts being a record of Israel’s rejection of the kingdom, apostles, and Holy Ghost.
- c. Luke 7:1-10 records a Centurion (like Cornelius) getting blessed... why?
- d. Peter went to a Gentile. So did Jesus, Paul did first, and it was to show Peter things.

2. Acts 10:1-8 – A Devout Gentile

- a. Cornelius from Italy (Rome?) as are others in his group – 10:1
- b. Cornelius not any Gentile, but a Gentile devout to Israel’s God – 10:2, 22, 30
- c. Cornelius is not a pattern for the church as Paul was (a sinner saved by grace)
- d. An angel told him to fetch Peter, before telling Peter (backwards?) – 10:3-8
- e. Peter is in the house of Simon the tanner (a despised profession) – 10:6

3. Acts 10:9-20 – Peter’s Vision

- a. The vision is clear... but the meaning betrays Peter’s understanding – 10:9-16
- b. “*Not so, Lord*” - Peter had to be convinced against his will – thrice, no four.
- c. 10:14 – “*I have never*” – What is Peter practicing before here? The law.
- d. 10:17 – After the vision, Peter doubts (do you?)
- e. 10:19-22 - God is doing the teaching, everyone else is learning.

4. Acts 10:24-35 – What God Showed Peter

- a. 10:25-26 – Cornelius worships Peter and he refuses (no Pope’s pattern today)
- b. 10:28 – “*it is an unlawful thing*” – acc. to Matt 10:5-6, Mk 7:27, Acts 1:8, 3:25-26
- c. “*but God*” – He learns not to call any man common/ unclean, which means before?
 - i. When did God show him this? Yesterday! When did Paul get saved? ...
- d. “*for what intent...*” – Peter has no idea why he is there.
- e. 10:31 – “*prayer is heard*”, “*alms in remembrance*” → a covenant operation - Ge 12:3
- f. 10:33 – “*well done*” - Cornelius said I obeyed, and it is good that Peter obeyed...
 - i. They are both obedient to God, unlike the unfaithful nation of Israel.
- g. 10:34-35 – “*no respecter of persons*” – Israel had a special position, but now we see it being set aside for the sake of a Gentile that has greater faith than Israel.
- h. What are the conditions of his acceptance? 1) Fear him, 2) work righteousness.