

The Holy Spirit Opens Wide to All Peoples - Acts 10

Introduction: This is a pivotal time in NT church. Begins greater emphasis on gentile evangelism, all things now are seen as clean because of Christ, not on the basis of ritual. This transition includes the Gentile Pentecost.

I. Cornelius in Caesarea 10:1-8

II. Peter and the vision at Joppa 10:9-16

Mark 7:1-19 Christ declared all foods clean

John 10:7-9 Christ is now the door to Judaism

III. Peter directed by the Spirit to go 10:17-23

IV. Peter's request, God's answer through Cornelius 10:23-33

V. Peter preaches Christ to Gentiles at Caesarea 10:34-43

VI. Holy Spirit Pentecost on Gentiles 10:44-48

Psalm 22:27 fulfillment of OT prophecies

Ephesians 2:14-18

Application:

1. The account of Cornelius (a real outsider) gives hope--anyone may hear and be given the gift of faith to believe Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9)
Faith comes by hearing Romans 10:17

2. Let's learn from Peter's dilemma with the old regime of works righteousness faced now with Christ's new way of grace thru faith alone.

Galatians 2:11-14 Peter had to be confronted by Paul on this matter.
How do we erect false standards, that do not need radical grace of Christ? What ways does God call me to give up my need to have "control"? How do I step away from my perceived "safety" and move by faith into the "unknown" which is actually God's better way? Luke 11:9-13. What are our "holdouts," those escapes from letting God's grace be mammoth in our daily situations?

Conclusion: the words of the gospel, that day in Peter's sermon, speak to us all. Vs. 43 If you truly admit your need of Him, Christ will redeem you!