

Acts 10

Peter & Cornelius



the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:8

“...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:8

1. Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews

“Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem...”

“Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ...”

“and that day there were added about three thousand souls.”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

1. *Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
2. *Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*

“...a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria,”

“Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

1. *Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
2. *Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*

“they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.”

“So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria ...continued to increase.” (9:31)

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

1. *Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
2. *Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*
3. *Acts 10:1 & 38-44 & 11:15-18 – Witness to Gentiles (non-Jews) for the first time.*

“a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort,”

You know of Jesus of Nazareth... We are witnesses of all the things He did...”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

- 1. Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
- 2. Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*
- 3. Acts 10:1 & 38-44 & 11:15-18 – Witness to Gentiles (non-Jews) for the first time.*
“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

- 1. Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
- 2. Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*
- 3. Acts 10:1 & 38-44 & 11:15-18 – Witness to Gentiles (non-Jews) for the first time.*
- 4. Acts 13:2-4 & 45-49 – Witness to the remotest part of the earth.*

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

4. *Acts 13:2-4 & 45-49 – Witness to the remotest part of the earth.*

“Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

“...sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

4. *Acts 13:2-4 & 45-49 – Witness to the remotest part of the earth.*

“It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, ‘I have placed you as a light for the nations, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

An Outline of the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:8

- 1. Acts 2:5 & 38 & 41 – Witness to Jerusalem Jews*
- 2. Acts 8:1 & 5 & 17 – Witness to Jews in Judea and Samaria.*
- 3. Acts 10:1 & 38-44 & 11:15-18 – Witness to Gentiles for the first time.*
- 4. Acts 13:2-4 & 45-49 – Witness to the remotest part of the earth.*

The Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts

How many times in Acts? 41 times

By contrast:

In Luke: 13 times

In all the Gospels: 28 times

In all of Paul's letters: 19 times

Significance?

The Baptism in the Book of Acts

How many times in Acts? 21 times

water baptism: 19 times

(Spirit baptism in 1:5 & 11:16)

The Baptism in Acts 10

2 times – Acts 10:47-48

“Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?”

And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

What do you learn about baptism from these verses?

In this interaction between Cornelius (a Gentile) and Peter (a Jew), who took the initiative to bring them together? (Acts 10:3 and 13-16)

*An “angel of God”
or the “Lord”*

10:12-14 – cf. *Deut. 14:4-20* & *Lev. 11:1-30*

What might have been in the Sheet?

camel – rabbit – badger – pig – eagle

vulture – buzzard – kite – falcon – raven

ostrich – owl – sea gull – hawk – pelican

cormorant – stork – heron – bat

clams – oysters – crayfish – lobster – shrimp

dogs – coyote – cats – lion – leopard – lizard

snake – mole – mouse – rat – crocodile

chameleon – centipede – ants – spiders

PETER'S REFLECTIONS – vs.17-19

v. 17 – “greatly perplexed” = unable to make rational sense of information

v. 19 – “reflecting” –to consider = think seriously about

Peter realized that God meant not only food, but people also.

God was challenging Peter's assumptions... expanding His dealings with mankind, wanting all people to hear the message of salvation through Jesus Christ, not just Jews.

Why did Peter start his message as he did?

(vs. 34-35)

Peter realized that,

“God is not one to show partiality.”

*Therefore, the gospel which God
sent to the sons of Israel
was meant for all people.*

Can we conclude, from vs. 34-35, that any person who “fears God and does righteous deeds,” but has not heard the name of Jesus, will be saved.

NO... we cannot!

Almost immediately (v. 43) he says through the name of Jesus, everyone who believes will be saved. Also,..

Acts 4:12 says, “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved..”

In Peter's Message to Cornelius...

1. What aligned with 1 Corinthians 15:3-8?

Jesus died... was raised... seen by witnesses

2. What evidence does he state of who Jesus was and claimed to be?

- God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power.
- He did good and healed those who were oppressed by the devil.
- He was appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

In Peter's Message to Cornelius...

3. How does he defend the reality of the resurrection of Christ?

- First: just the claim... “God raised up this man on the third day”
- Then, he was seen by and ate & drank with witnesses
- The prophets testified He would be raised.

How does Peter's message influence your own presentation of the Gospel?

Why did the Holy Spirit have Luke go into such detail in Acts 10:1-11:18, even repeating Peter's visit to the house of Cornelius?

It was this event that marked the expansion of gospel preaching to include non-Jews.

Without the inclusion of non-Jews, the salvation message would not have spread to the whole world.

EXTRA: What is the Scriptural basis for Peter's statement in 10:23?

- *Nehemiah 13:1-3 – “On that day they read aloud from the book of Moses in the hearing of the people; and there was found written in it that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever enter the assembly of God, 2 because they did not meet the sons of Israel with bread and water but hired Balaam against them to curse them. (Deut.23:3-4) However, our God turned the curse into a blessing. 3 So when they heard the law, they excluded all foreigners from Israel.”*

EXTRA: What is the Scriptural basis for Peter's statement in 10:23?

- *Later, the Rabbis wrote laws that extended the separation to any Jewish social contact with Gentiles, particularly accepting hospitality in their homes.*
- *In the time of Jesus, the Jews believed that they became unclean by entering the house of a non-Jew. (John 18:28)*

