



Acts Chapter 10

Summary of Acts Chapter 10

Cornelius is a Roman centurion that feared God and so did his family. We are not told “how” he learned of God but that doesn’t really matter. But in a vision angels told him to send for Peter, an apostle. So he sends his servants to get Peter.

Meanwhile, Peter receives a vision from God. In the vision, he sees a bunch of animals in a draping sheet. All the animals were considered unclean to eat. Then God told Peter to get up and eat the animals. Peter refused, saying that it was against the law of Moses to eat them. God then said, “Don’t say things that I have made clean are unclean.” This happened three times.

When Peter woke up, The three servants that Cornelius sent arrived at Peter’s doorstep, telling of Cornelius and how God’s Angels told Cornelius to ask for him. When Peter heard this, he finally understood what the vision meant.

So Peter goes to Cornelius’s house to tell him about Jesus. Once Cornelius’s household heard this, they were instantly filled with the Holy Spirit, and were given the same powers as the Apostles did in Chapter 2.

The meaning of Acts Chapter 10

This story is about two men 30 miles apart, one, Cornelius in Caesarea and Peter being in Joppa, brought together by The LORD. This is the same Joppa where Jonah decided to go down to “escape” from The LORD. But Peter on the command of the LORD, given in a vision, went against his tradition prejudices in light of God’s word, and not only invited these Gentiles, but also entertained them. The next day he traveled to Cornelius’s house, who also in faith, was waiting for this Jewish man, knowing full well that a devout Jew will not enter a Gentile’s house. His heart was prepared by a vision also and his faith was so visible that he had many people with him waiting for Peter. We hear Peter’s sermon saying...

- ▷ God shows no partiality
- ▷ People of all nations are accepted by him
- ▷ The cross and resurrection, and how anyone who believes in Him is made righteous

While listening to Peter, the people in the room surrendered and embraced Christ and were filled with the Holy Spirit God. Peter baptized them and stayed with them for a few days.

This story is as much about Peter as it was Cornelius. Peter understood the wideness of God's love. He obeyed God more than his tradition, more than his life, by welcoming Gentiles, who for him were common and unclean. We also see Cornelius who has a relationship with the God of Israel. He is fasting and praying at 3:00 PM, which is the Jewish time of prayer. His faith is contagious for there were those of his household and under his command who also honored the God of Israel. By faith he sends for Peter and despite all customs, he is waiting for Peter in Faith. God accomplishes his work by speaking and preparing both these men in their prayer time . The result is salvation itself.

So what does this chapter tell us?

This chapter tells us that loves everyone. It tells us that anyone who believes in him can become a part of his plan.

Read Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.