

Acts 10:24 to 11:18; Cornelius Conversion.





Roman Centurion in Full Regalia.

Acts 10:24 to 11:18; Cornelius Conversion.

A Roman centurion in Caesarea, the Roman capital of Palestine, has seen a vision of an angel who has told him to send men to Joppa and bring back Peter who would tell him a message through which he and his household would be saved.

Meanwhile, on a housetop in Joppa, Peter has seen in a vision something like a great sheet let down from heaven full of unclean animals.

Centurion with Battle Gear.



Acts 10:24 to 11:18; Cornelius Conversion.

Until Peter's meeting with Cornelius, the gospel has not been presented to Gentiles.

The Apostles and Jewish disciples have thought that the church was strictly a Jewish thing and that if a Gentile wanted to be a disciple of Christ he had to become like a Jew, vowing to observe the Laws of Moses and be circumcised.

**Then he could be immersed
for the forgiveness of his sins
and the indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit
And be added to the family of God.**



Painted Mural.

God showed to Peter in the vision of the sheet full of unclean animals on the housetop that Gentiles were to be considered acceptable to God through the gospel.

**Through a gift of tongues (languages) to Cornelius and his household,
God showed to the Jewish Christians with Peter,
That He had always intended to accept Gentiles
Into the family of God, the church.**

Gentiles, as well as Jews from Pentecost on, would be saved and come into the family of God by Gods grace on the basis of the blood of Christ and our response to that grace of our faith, repentance and baptism, without circumcision or a vow to obey the laws of Moses.

Acts 10:24 to 11:18; Cornelius Conversion.

Cornelius' men find Peter at the house of Simon the Tanner. They spend the night. Then the Holy Spirit tells him to go with them. Peter is still wondering about the meaning of the vision he had seen on the housetop.

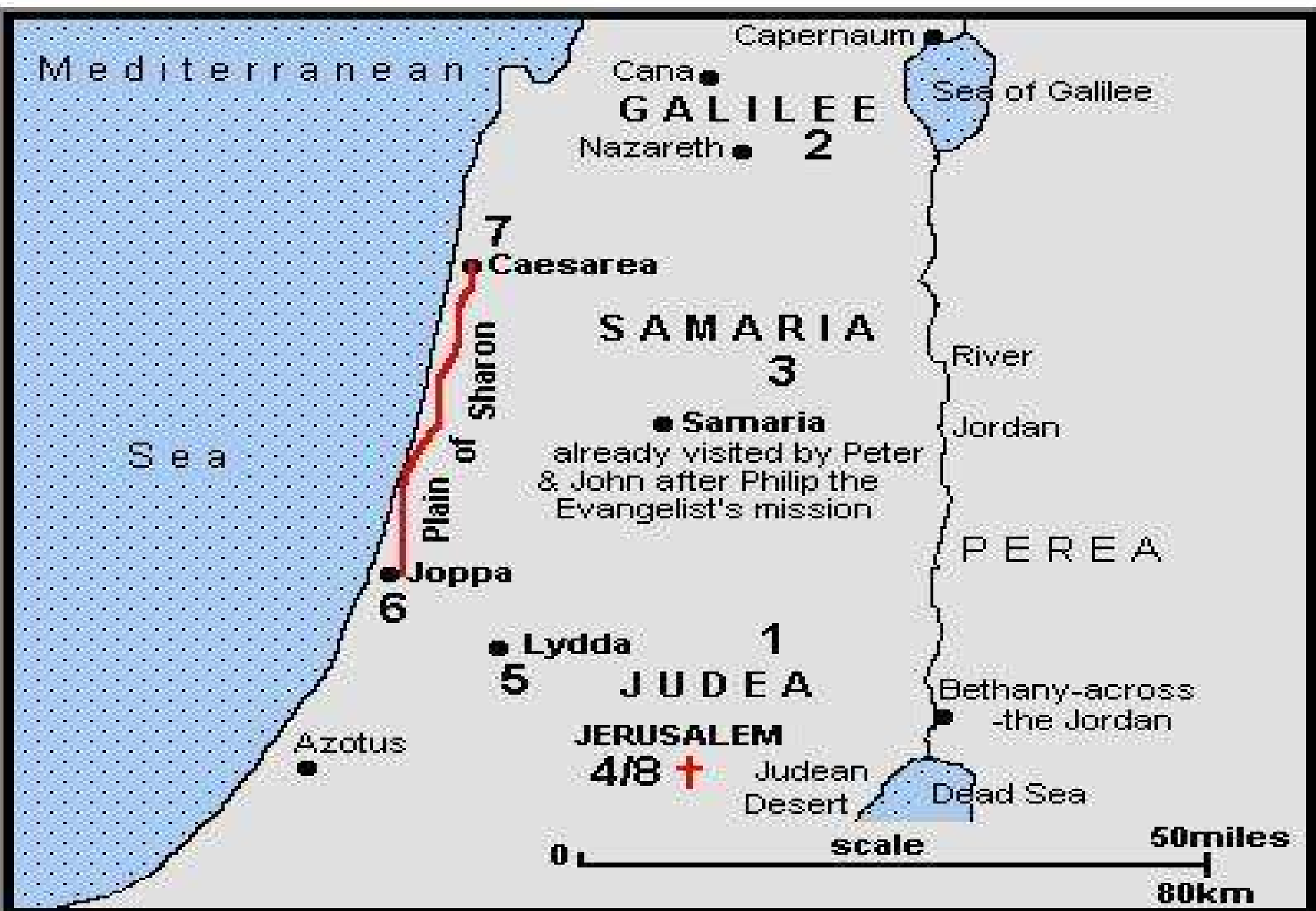
The four men travel up the sea coast to Caesarea where Cornelius with his relatives and friends are waiting in rapt anticipation to hear the message Peter has for them from God.

They know that it will be through **hearing that message and their response to that message that they will be saved.**

From Joppa to Caesarea.



From Joppa to Caesarea.



Acts 10:23-26; Peter meets Cornelius.

**“The next day Peter started out with them,
and some of the brothers
from Joppa went along.”**

**24 “The following day he arrived in Caesarea.
Cornelius was expecting them and had called
together his relatives and close friends.”**

**25 “As Peter entered the house, **Cornelius
met him and fell at his feet in reverence.**”**

26 “But Peter made him get up. **“Stand up”
he said, **“I am only a man myself.”****



DISCUSSION QUESTION? 10:26;

**Contrast how the
apostles treated those
who would fall at their feet.**

versus

how the Pope would!

Or how Jesus would!

How do people treat the Pope?



Up until the 19th century visitors would kiss the pope's shoes, and the tradition still is that all visitors, women included, bow to him.

How do people treat the Pope?



Many are encouraged to bow before a statue of Mary or the Pope.

How did people treat Jesus?

“He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him! and he was a Samaritan.” Luke 17:16;

“Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshipped him.” John 9:38;



Acts 10:27-28; Gentiles declared clean.

27 “Talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people.”



Acts 10:27-28; Gentiles declared clean.

28 “He said to them: “You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean.”

29 “So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?”

In v28 we have the meaning of the “sheet” vision. Gentiles are not to be considered unclean or impure any longer.



Acts 10:30-32; Gentiles declared clean.

30 “Cornelius answered: “Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me”

31 “and said, ‘Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor.’”

32 “Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter.”

Traditional House of Simon the Tanner at Joppa. (modern Jaffa.)



Acts 10:34-47; Outline of Peter's sermon.

**32 “He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner,
who lives by the sea.”**

**33 “So I sent for you immediately, and it
was good of you to come. Now we are all here
in the presence of God to listen to everything
the Lord has commanded you to tell us.”**

Acts 10:34-47; Outline of Peter's sermon.

10:34-35; God is Impartial!

10:36-38; The word of Jesus Ministry!

10:39-41; Witnessed death and resurrection!

**10:42-43; The message of judgement
and forgiveness!**

**10:47; Instructions on
how to respond to Gods grace
through the obedience of faith!**

THE SAME STORY!

Acts 2

Exalted to the Right Hand of God...



Timeline of the Kingdom

Acts 3

Heaven Receives Until...



Acts 10

Jesus
Raised Up

Remission
of Sins

Jesus, Judge of
Living & Dead

Jesus Killed

Fears & Works
Righteousness;
Believes

Acts 3:20; “and that He may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you-even Jesus.”

In Acts 3:21; It indicated that this refers to the return of Jesus. The Christian looks forward to and longs for the coming of Jesus.

Whereas in Acts 2:38; Peter had promised that remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit would follow their obeying the gospel, there is here assigned another consequence, namely, that (God) may send the Christ, etc.

Christ had already come and completed the work of his First Advent, making this a reference to the Second Coming or Return of Christ.

Which in this verse is promised as an event that would be hastened by people obeying the gospel.

Acts 3:21; “whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, whereof God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets that have been from of old.”

Jesus is in heaven now and will remain until He comes again. This passage indicates that He would not come until the things spoken by the prophets had been fulfilled.

We are living in the times of the restoration of all things. This restoration which is already in progress will culminate in the creation being delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. Romans 8:19-21;

Acts 3:21; “whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, whereof God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets that have been from of old.”

Peter says in 3:24; (as he quotes the prophets to prove his point), "They told of these days."

The times of the restoration of all things is not some future millennial period.

Peter says the days he was living in (and the days we are living in) were these days.

The first coming of Jesus marked the beginning of these times, and His return will mark the end of the restoration of all things.

21 “whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, whereof God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets that have been from of old.”

Jesus may come at any time.

Everyone must live in the expectation that He may come at any minute, although it may still be hundreds of years before He comes.

Jesus is now reigning. (1 Tm 6:15;). He will reign on David's throne from heaven until the last enemy, death, is destroyed. 1 Cor 15:24-28;

Peter proclaimed that men must be restored to a reconciled spiritual relationship with God.

Acts 3:21; “whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, whereof God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets that have been from of old.”

This would happen when men accepted Jesus as the Messiah and Saviour and were obedient to the gospel.

After men and women have responded to the gospel throughout this dispensation of time.

Jesus will then come to do away with this world in order to bring the saved home to glory.

1 Cor 15:24-27; See 2 Pet 3:13;

Acts 10:34-35; God is Impartial.

34 “Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favouritism,”

35 “but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.”





**God plays
no favourites!
It makes
no difference
who you are
or where you're from.
Acts 10:34**

Acts 10:36; God is Impartial.

36 “You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.”

By now it should be clear that **unclean animals symbolized Gentiles and the Jews had been taught to avoid them.
But now Gentiles must be considered “clean.”**

Into All the World for the Rest of Time



DISCUSSION QUESTION:- 10:34;

**If God gives a vision
to Cornelius 10:4;
and to Peter 10:11;
but not to me isn't that
showing favouritism?**



DISCUSSION QUESTION:

What valuable lesson
do we learn from

Galatians 2:11-13;

in relationship to this story?



Gal 2:11-13;.

**11. “But when Peter was come to Antioch,
I withstood him to the face,
because he was to be blamed.”**

**12. “For before that certain came from James,
he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they
were come, he withdrew and separated himself,
fearing them which were of the circumcision.”**

**13. “And the other Jews followed him
in his hypocrisy; insomuch that Barnabas also
was carried away with their hypocrisy.”**



Acts 10:37-38; Peter begins to preach.

37 “You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached”

38 “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”



The Anointing.
“**Messiah**” or “**Mashiach**” in Hebrew
and “**Christos**” or Christ in Greek
mean “**Anointed.**”

The King and the High Priest, who was also the national prophet, were anointed with the holy oil, a mixture of olive oil and divinely prescribed spices.

This anointing oil
symbolized **the Holy Spirit.**



Jesus was Anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus was Anointed.

No physical oil of anointment was poured on Jesus' head when He was appointed as our High Priest at His baptism.

Instead, the Holy Spirit was sent down from heaven in visible form as God had told John the Baptizer that it would.

John then made the announcement to the world that Jesus was the One Anointed by God promised in the scriptures from the beginning of time.
John 1:29-31;

Christians are Anointed at their Baptism.



Christians are Anointed at their immersion.

1 John 2:27; tells us that we are anointed with the Holy Spirit. This occurs at our baptism just as it did with Jesus at His baptism.

This is the promise Peter made in God's name to all generations in Acts 2:38-39;

No dove flies down from heaven and perches on our heads.

But we receive the Holy Spirit invisibly at our baptism when we come up out of the water to “walk in newness of life.” (Rom 6:4;)



Acts 10:39-28; Gentiles declared clean.

39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree,"

40 "but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen."

41 "He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had chosen, by us who ate and drank with him after He rose from the dead."

The Testimony of History.

**The story of Jesus from His baptism
that began His public ministry to His ascension
40 days after His resurrection
is the best attested history ever written.**

**This large number of witnesses,
specially - chosen to have a close daily relationship
with Jesus, heard Him speak, ate, drank,
slept near and travelled about with Him
for about three and a half years.**

**They had seen with their own eyes touched
with their own hands and heard with their own ears
the Subject of their histories.**



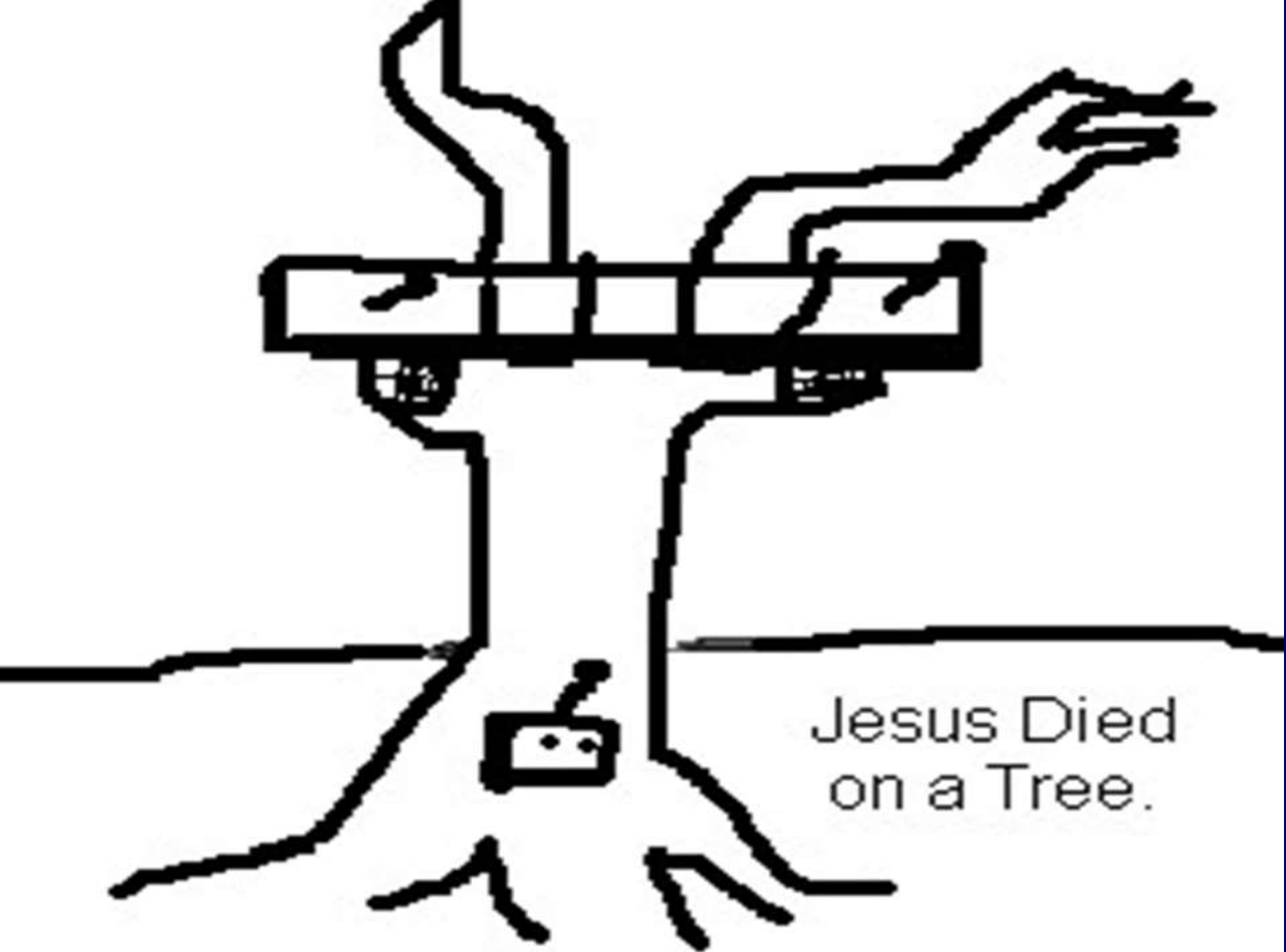
“Killed by Hanging on a Tree.”

“Killed by Hanging on a Tree.”

The wood from which the cross was made came from a tree. So in a sense when Jesus was hung on that cross He was hung on a veritable tree.

Some think the tree was an actual tree upon which Jesus was hung, one still rooted in its original location.

The story is that above the cliff whose face looked like a skull (Golgotha in Hebrew, Calvary in Latin) there was a grove of ancient olive trees.



“Killed by Hanging on a Tree.”

Continuing this theory: the piece of wood that Jesus carried is called in the Greek a **stauros**.

This word does not necessarily mean **“cross.”**

It means a stake or a piece of wood that could be used as the crossbar to make a cross when fastened to an upright beam.

According to this theory,
Jesus' hands, actually His wrists,
were nailed to the wood
that was then lifted with His body
and hung on a tree.

“Significance of the Tree?”

**It was absolutely crucial,
if you’ll pardon the pun,
for Jesus to be hung on a tree.**

**In order for Jesus to be classified as a sinner
He had to come under the curse of the Law.**



Golgotha – Place of the skull!

Golgotha – Place of the skull!



The Curse of the Law.

**When Jesus was hung on the tree
He came under the curse of the law
which was
equivalent to becoming a sinner.**

**The law said, “Anyone who is hung on a tree
is under God’s curse” (Deuteronomy 21:23;).
Paul said it was this curse that allowed
Jesus to die for all sinners. (Galatians 3:13;)**

**This is the significance of Jesus’
being hung on a tree.**

Acts 10:42-43; Jesus the Judge.



Acts 10:42-43; Jesus the Judge.

42 “He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.”

43 “All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

What is the **significance of the word
“**Everyone**” in verse 43?**

Bible history is HIS – story, from the promise God made about a son of Eve to the final verses of Revelation.

**Jesus is God revealed, our Final Judge
and the Only Way to Salvation.**



Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

44 “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.”

45 “The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.”

46 “For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.”

Who received a gift of languages in this chapter?

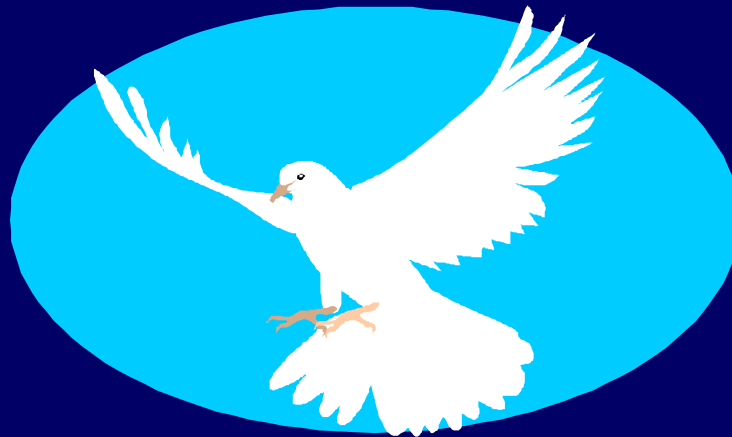


Who received a **gift of languages** in this chapter?

“All who heard the message” did not include the Jewish brothers Peter brought with him.

All were **Gentiles** who were affected by this **gift of languages** from the Holy Spirit.

Why were **the Jewish Christians** with Peter **so astonished** that the Holy Spirit came on the Gentiles?



Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**Acts 1:5 – “You
shall be...Baptized
in the Holy Spirit
Not many Days
Hence”**

**Acts 11:15,16 – “...the Holy Spirit
came on them as he had come on
us at the beginning. Then I
remembered what the Lord had
said: ‘John baptized with water,
but you will be baptized with the
Holy Spirit.’ ”**

**Acts 2:33 – ... “has received
from the Father the promised
Holy Spirit and has poured
out what you now see and
hear”**

**Acts 10:44 – “While Peter
was still speaking these
words, the Holy Spirit came
on all who heard the
message”**

***Acts 15:7 - "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice
among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the
gospel and believe. 8God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted
them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. 9He made no
distinction between us and them..."***

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

When Peter uses the term

“Baptism of the Holy Spirit” here

does he mean the same as what had happened to the apostles at Pentecost?

In Acts 2:1-4; The **Outpouring** of the Spirit into the world occurred as Jesus promised.

Or is it the same **Indwelling** of the Spirit as promised in Acts 2:38;

Or is it an act of the **Spirit's power**, a **Gift of tongues** as also happened in Acts 2:1-4;

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:- Should every Christian receive a gift from the Holy Spirit like Cornelius? (11:15;)

Sometimes people want to apply what happened to Cornelius concerning the Holy Spirit to everyone.

It seems much more likely from the context that the interaction of the Holy Spirit and Cornelius **was the exception** rather than the rule.

For example:- “Just because Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind doesn’t mean that we will be too.”

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**That this was an unusual event is shown
by what Peter says in chapter 11:15;**

**By describing the event
as **similar** to what happened
at the beginning to the Apostles.**

**Peter shows that **he didn't think
it was like what happened
to every Christian.****

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.
In Acts 2:1-4; the Holy Spirit
was poured into the world
on the Apostles as Jesus promised.

Jesus had said that **the apostles**
were to be **His witnesses**
and that when they received
the **Baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

The Holy Spirit would bring
to the apostles remembrance all that
Jesus had said and done. The apostles
would be Guided into ALL TRUTH.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.
In Acts 2:1-4; the Holy Spirit
also gave the apostles
a GIFT of TONGUES – a gift of power!

The Holy Spirit gave this to the Apostles
to bring the Jewish people together and
to confirm the message about to be preached.

The message that Salvation for the Jews
was now to be found in Jesus Christ and
their response to the Message of the Christ.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

In Acts 8:16-18; the Holy Spirit was already at work in the world as seen by the Apostles ability through **the laying on of their hands** to **pass on gifts** to the Samaritans.

Here in Acts 10:44; the **Holy Spirit** gives a **gift of power** demonstrated in a **GIFT of TONGUES** which he gives to **Cornelius** and his family.

WHY, to CONFIRM to the Jewish Christians with Peter that **SAME SALVATION** message.

That is **SALVATION** for the **GENTILES ALSO** was now to be found in Jesus Christ and **THEIR response** in obedience to the Message of the **Christ** without the need of **CIRCUMCISION**.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**Notice there were NO tongues LIKE FIRE
resting on Gentiles.**

There was NO SOUND like a mighty wind.

**Just like the Samaritans
the gift was SEEN in action.**

**It was this VISUAL gift that Peter
later refers to as like in the beginning.**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**In Acts 2 1-4; it is described as the BAPTISM
of the HOLY SPIRIT SEEN as the HOLY SPIRIT
coming with a demonstration of POWER**

**In Acts 8:15; it is described as the Samaritans
RECIEVING the SPIRIT.**

**In Acts 10:44; with Cornelius it is described
as the HOLY SPIRIT FALLING on them.**

**In Acts 15:8; Peter speaking of what happened described
it as GIVING them the HOLY SPIRIT as He did us**

**Because God in this VISUAL way broke through
the barrier of misunderstanding between
the Jew and the Gentile, Now all Gentiles
could become Christians without circumcision.**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.
ALL of these instances **Acts 2 1-4;**
the Apostles **Acts 8:15;** the Samaritans
and **Acts 10:44; Cornelius.**

You could also add **Acts 4:31; filled with**
the Holy Spirit and **earthquake** occurring **COULD**
to some extent be **described AND HAVE BEEN**
described as a **BAPTISM** or **OUTPOURING**
of the **Holy Spirit** by commentators.

BUT THEY ARE NOT. ONLY TWO OF THESE
Acts 2:1-4; the Apostles and Acts 10;
with **Cornelius household**
are **USUALLY** spoken of by commentators
as being a **Baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.
I DISAGREE I believe ONLY what happened
in Acts 2:1-4; to the APOSTLES can
TRULY be described as that which Jesus promised
as BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The main reason why Peter states
that what happened to Cornelius
was what happened in Acts 2:1-4;
to the APOSTLES.

IS NOT that WHAT HAPPENED to Cornelius
an UNSAVED, NON CHRISTIAN person
was THE SAME AS OR EQUAL TO
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE APOSTLES

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**What he is describing as the SAME is that
a GIFT was given WITHOUT HUMAN AID,
WITHOUT THE HANDS OF THE APOSTLES
WHICH UNTIL NOW HAD BEEN THE NORMAL WAY
A GIFT WAS TRANSMITTED.**

**Many commentators struggle trying to explain
the words of Peter. And you can see by
the fight of contradiction in their writings.**

**Reece for example when describing the work
of the Holy Spirit in his book “Acts page 101.”
Says Baptism in the Holy Spirit
was meant only for the Apostles!**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

Later when **Reece** comes to **Cornelius** he says that **HE received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit!**

Yet **Reece** does an excellent job in describing why what happened to the Samaritans could **NOT** be described as a **Baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

The “Coming” of the Holy Spirit in Acts 10; means the giving of a miraculous gift!

Being obedient to God in baptism brings the Holy Spirit Himself as the Gift, (singular. – Acts 2:38-39; 5:32;) and promise of God into the Christian’s life.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

But **baptism** does not automatically bring the **supernatural power, or gifts** (listed in 1 Cor 12;) of the **Holy Spirit** to a person.

These gifts were usually passed to others by **having an Apostle lay his hands on him or her.**

This is why the **two Apostles** came down to **Samaria** and laid their hands on them.

The **two exceptions** to this practice are found in **Acts 2:1-4;** (on the Apostles themselves) and in **Acts 10;** (Cornelius and his family.)

When **NO HUMAN** was said to pass on the gifts but rather the **Holy Spirit Himself** could be said to **give or impart the gifts** in a miraculous way.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

In **both** these cases the purpose was the same
NOT for **salvation** or a **SIGN** of being **saved**
but as **CONFIRMATION** of the **MESSAGE!**

Yet what happened to the **Samaritans**
bears a closer resemblance
to what happened to **Cornelius** in that:-

The **same gift of languages**
is given for **the same reason**
to **CONFIRM** the **message** spoken.

The main difference being **one given by human**
hands and **one without the aid of human hands.**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

**Note also with Cornelius THERE WAS NO AS LIKE
TONGUES OF FIRE, NO NOISE AS A MIGHTY WIND,
NO EARTHQUAKE ACCOMPANYMENT:-**

**Only the giving of a gift
to CONFIRM the message
that the Gentiles are acceptable
to the Jewish believers with Peter.**

**Our CONCLUSION is that there was only
ONE time a BAPTISM of the HOLY SPIRIT when the
HOLY SPIRIT came into the world in a special way
to EMPOWER the Apostles to bring to their
remembrance ALL that Jesus had TAUGHT!
and to GUIDE them into all truth!
And give them a gift of POWER (other Languages).**

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

Having come into the world **the Holy Spirit** gave miraculous gifts in the first century **as He WILLS through the hands of the Apostles.**

Or as in the isolated case of Cornelius and those with him, **He gave a gift in a direct way without the apostles hands** as He did at Pentecost.

SINCE Pentecost the HOLY SPIRIT has been available to **INDWELL** – to make **His ABODE in** – **every baptised believer from THEN on until the end of time** as Acts 2:38; says.

There were not two instances of identical Holy Spirit Baptisms nor is it the case that every time the Holy Spirit is mentioned it means a Holy Spirit baptism.

Acts 10:47-48

Μήτι τὸ ὕδωρ δύναται κωλῦσαί τις
τοῦ μὴ βαπτισθῆναι τούτους
οἵτινες τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἔλαβον
ὥς καὶ ἡμεῖς;

προσέταξεν δὲ αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ
ὀνόματι Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ
βαπτισθῆναι. τότε ἠρώτησαν
αὐτὸν ἐπιμεῖναι ἡμέρας τινάς.

Speaking in Tongues / known languages.

Acts 10:44-46; Gentiles receive a gift.

The word translated “**tongue**” is a Greek word that means “**language**” in this kind of context.

Translators don't like to translate the word correctly because **they don't want to offend the religions** who want to speak **incomprehensible gibberish** and call it speaking in a tongue.

These Gentiles must have been speaking Hebrew or Aramaic or perhaps Greek. **They were speaking languages someone present understood.** Otherwise how did they know they were praising God?

Many tongues are spoken and translated at the UN.



Acts 10:46; Gentiles receive a gift.

The terms, “**speaking in an unknown tongue**” is used in the Bible to mean “**a language the speaker does not know**, not a language no one knows.

Paul acknowledged that there might be someone who would speak in a language that neither he nor anyone present understood. Why the Spirit would let that happen is something I don't understand.

**But he said it is better to speak
so everyone understands.**

(1 Corinthians 14;)

Acts 10:46; Gentiles receive a gift.

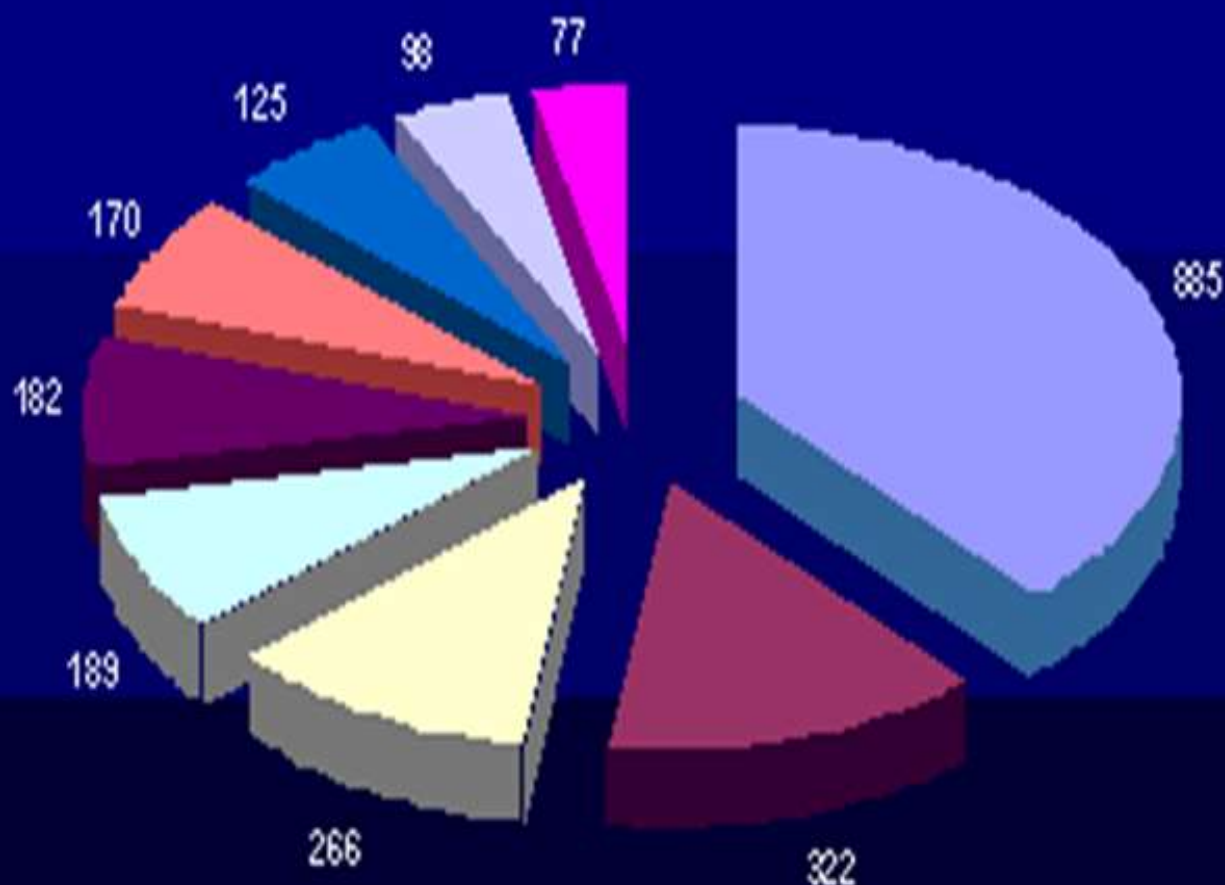
Paul also said if someone speaks in a tongue (foreign language) and there is no one present to interpret (translate), then he should keep silent and not speak to the assembly. (1 Cor 14:27-28;)

Paul said tongues were given as a sign to unbelievers and were not for speaking to the congregation. (1 Cor 14:32;)

In the case of the Jews accepting the Gentiles as their equals in the assembly they were unbelievers until God convinced them of His will by this miracle.

The World's Top Ten Languages

Tongues = Languages.



Chinese (Mandarin)

Bengali

Japanese

English

Hindi

German

Spanish

Portuguese

Chinese (Wu)

Tongues = Languages.

In case there may be someone who still does not think **“tongues”** means **“languages,”** but rather some incomprehensible phenomenon, here are several scriptures that speak of the peoples, tribes, nations and languages of the world.

In Revelation 5:9; 7:9; 11:9; 13:7 and 14:6, the Greek word **“glossa,”** the word **translated “tongues”** in Acts 2; and other places, **is translated “language”** and **its meaning is obvious in these passages.**

The ability to speak in tongues would come in handy right now.



Acts 10:46-48; Peter orders baptism.



Ancient Jewish Mikva (Baptistry) at Qumran, Israel.

Acts 10:46-48; Peter orders baptism.

Then Peter said, 47 "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."

48 "So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days."

If not for **this miracle gift the **Jewish Christians**, including Peter would not have baptized these Gentiles until they had become Judaized.**

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?



While he was **praying**?
When the
angel appeared?
When Peter
BEGAN to speak?
When the
Holy Spirit gave a gift?
When he
obeyed
the command of Jesus?

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

What did Cornelius know? (10:37;)

He feared and worshipped God! (10:2;)

**The word that God sent
to the children of Israel! (10:36-37,42;)**

**That peace through Jesus Christ
was preached! (10:36-37,43; [Phillip, Acts 8:40;])**

That Jesus was Lord ALL! (10:36-37,43;)

The works of Jesus! (10:38-39,40;)

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

What did Cornelius **NOT know? (10:37;)**

**God had “granted repentance to life”
to the **Gentiles** as well as the Jews.
(11:18;)**

**The words God had commanded
Peter to speak to them, i.e.
that which they **MUST** do!
(10:33, 6,22-32,42; 11:14;)**

**That they too must be baptized
in the name of (authority of) Jesus Christ!
(10:47-48; 11:17; 2:38;)**

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

Romans 10:17; “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

10:6; “He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will TELL you what you must do.”

10:22; And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to HEAR words from you.”

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

Romans 10:17; “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

10:32; “Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.”

11:14; “who will tell you WORDS by which you and all your household will be saved.”

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

What did Peter believe and teach about the new birth, Jesus blood and water baptism?

Acts 10:47-48; (NKJV) "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

A command of God that cannot be refused!
Acts 10:47-48;

To forbid water baptism would have been to withstand God. – Acts 10:47; 11:17;

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

18. “knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19. but **with precious blood**, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, **{the blood} of Christ.**”

Revelation 1:5; “from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the highest of earthly kings. **He loves us and has washed away our sins with His blood.**”

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

1 Peter 3:20-21; (NKJV)

“eight souls, were saved
through water.

There is also an antitype
**which now saves us,
baptism**

(not the removal
of the filth of the flesh,
**but the answer of a good
conscience toward God),**
through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 3:20-21; (NASB)

“eight persons,
were brought safely
through the water. And
corresponding to that,
baptism now saves you –

not the removal
of dirt from the flesh,
**but an appeal to God
for a good
Conscience,**
through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ.”

Baptism because of the resurrection Saves Us!

1 Peter 3:20-21 – Negatively & Positively.

“eight persons, were brought safely through the water. And corresponding to that, **baptism now saves you**- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

Negatively

“not the removal of dirt from the flesh,”

**B
U
T**

Positively

“an appeal to God for a good conscience- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”

Baptism because of the resurrection Saves Us!

1 Peter 3:20-21 – Negatively & Positively.

The term **“answer”** (KJV) is defined by **Thayer** “as the terms of the inquiry and demand, a question.”

This term would include and require an earnest seeking, a craving and intense desire for a thing.

Arndt and Gingrich would define the term as a **“request, appeal...an appeal to God for a clear conscience.”** Peter 3:21; (AG, 285)

An “appeal” to God for a good conscience illustrated.

an appeal to God for a good conscience--

1 Peter 3:21

(NASB)

... but an
appeal to
God for
a good
conscience--
through the
resurrection
of Jesus
Christ,



**An appeal
To God**

God

**For A good
conscience!**

Acts 10 and 11; WHEN WAS CORNELIUS SAVED?

**When does one become
a child of God? Gal 3:26-27;**

When is one made alive?

Romans 6:3-4;

When is one regenerated?

Titus 3:3-5; John 3:3-5;

**When does one
enter into Christ' body?**

1 Corinthians 12:13;

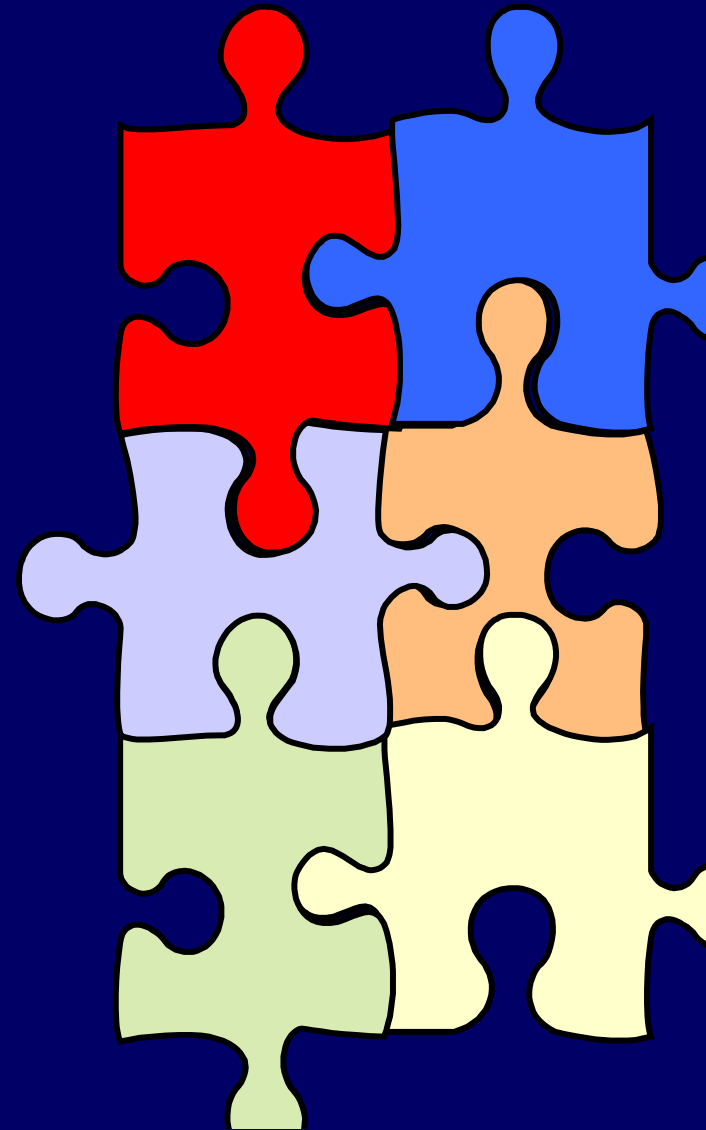
**When is one forgiven
of their past sins?**

Acts 2:38; 22:16;

When is one saved?

Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21;

The Pieces Fit Together!



IMPORTANT QUESTION

AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS FORGIVEN?

Washed in the BLOOD

be baptized

confess

repent

believe

hear

SINS FORGIVEN

RECEIVE

INDWELLING

HOLY SPIRIT

SAVED

NEW MAN

(REBORN IN

CHRIST)

**OLD MAN
(LOST IN SIN)**

**Saved by God's Grace
Through the Blood of Jesus**



Acts 11:1; Gentiles received the word.

“The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.”

Here we have what seems like a strange case of people receiving the Holy Spirit before they were saved. But it was not the indwelling of the Holy Spirit they received, it was a GIFT from the Spirit!

The sign was not to prove they were saved but to prove to the Jews that God would accept these Gentiles for salvation if they listened and obeyed the message Peter was preaching.

The gift from the Spirit was given not prove they were saved any more than the angel came to prove that Cornelius was saved.

Acts 11:2-3; Peter criticized.

**2 “So when Peter went up to Jerusalem,
the circumcised believers criticized him,”**

**“and said, “You went into the house
of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”**

**Wasn't Peter glad now for having a coherent story
he can tell these sceptical Jews,
and have six Jewish witnesses to back him up?**

v2 Those of Circumcision “contend” with Peter!

Why would they “contend”?

To properly understand their “**reaction**” to the acts of Peter, we must understand the “**mindset and beliefs of the day.**”

Their belief summarized in Acts 10:28;:-

“You know that it is unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation.”

Where in the Torah does it provide that a Jew is not to go into the home of a Gentile to eat and drink?

This Prohibition is Not in Torah.

This general prohibition is not from the **Torah of Moses**. This prohibition is from the **“traditions”** or **“customs.”**

“Besides entering into covenants and marriages with them, which were forbidden by the law, It was prohibited to eat and drink any sort of liquor with them in their houses.” Mitzvot Tora, pr neg. 143

**Clearly, Peter had violated a “tradition.”
(A teaching of the fathers.)**

This Prohibition is Not in Torah.

**By violating a tradition or custom,
had Peter violated Torah?
(million dollar question?)**

**Read Deut 17:8-13; – The Torah provides
a mechanism for getting a ruling
on certain issues that are too hard for you.**

**Leaders utilized this provision to enact
a multitude of rulings on a multitude of subjects!**

**We sometimes try to do the same
from the **silence of scripture** argument.**

This Prohibition is Not in Torah.

How do WE respond when **OUR** established theological understanding **conflicts** with the **TRUTH of God's WORD** being presented to US?

Option 1 – Ignore the TRUTH.

Option 2 – Get mad and attempt to discredit the messenger.

Option 3 – Deal with it.



Acts 11:4-7; Peter explains again.

Acts 11:4-7; Peter explains again.

4 “Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: 5 “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was.”

6 “I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air.

7 Then I heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’”

Acts 11:4-7; Peter explains again.

8 “I replied, ‘Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’”

9 “The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’ 10 This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.”



Peter's Theological Modification.

**"But the voice answered me again from heaven,
What God has cleansed you must not call common.**

Acts 11:9;

**"If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave
us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ,
who was I (Peter) that I could withstand God?"**

Acts 11:17; (NKJV)

**This is a Major theological modification by Peter
Peter determines to accept the TRUTH
over his present understanding.**

Acts 11:11-14; Peter continues to explain.

11 "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying."

12 "The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house."

13 "He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter.'"

"He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved."

Acts 11:11-14; Peter continues to explain.

12 "Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house."

Acts 11:12;

The voice from heaven

did not shock or surprise Peter

The voice disagreed with Peter's belief system!

How DO we "judge" the voice or the teaching that is contrary to our understanding?

We SHOULD judge all teaching, prophecy or voice by Scripture. (Not by tradition.)

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Was the devout, generous,
praying,
vision seeing Cornelius
saved before
Peter came to him?
(11:14;)?





Acts 11:15-17; Peter continues to explain.

15 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as He had come on us at the beginning."

. 16 "Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"

17 So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?"

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Does **received the same gift** mean
The **outpouring / baptism of Holy**
Spirit at Pentecost?
or **indwelling** of acts 2 38;?
or a **Spirit given gift of tongues?**





Acts 11:11-14; Peter continues to explain.

Here Peter says that what happened on Pentecost and at the House of Cornelius was **the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

Peter is **referring to the fact** that **the Gift of tongues was not as normal** passed on through **the hands of the Apostles** but rather as happened to them at the beginning it was an external thing that only came from heaven.

The signs produced were **not to save or indwell** the persons who received the Spirit's gift in this way, but **to convince sceptics** that the **teaching was authorized by God.**



**The good news about Jesus
is the key to the kingdom.**

Acts 11:18; “When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, God has granted **even the Gentiles repentance unto life.**”

What could the Jewish Christians say?

God had carefully orchestrated the situation so that all who knew the facts would be assured that what had happened had been done by God.

Again, **Peter was using the keys** Jesus had given him, **the gospel** to help others understand **the message of the risen Christ.**
(Matthew 16:19; Acts 15:7-9;)

DISCUSSION QUESTION?

What was the main point of the story of Cornelius?



Acts 11:18; Why Jews were to Accept Gentiles.

1. The Vision. 10:11-16;

2. Not hesitating. V20;

3. Entering Gentile house. v28-29;

4. God accepts all men. v34-35;

5. EVERYONE who believes. v43;

6. Gentiles receive a language gift. v44;

7. Jews Christians astonished. v45;

Acts 11:18; Why Jews were to Accept Gentiles.

8. Jewish objection. 11:1-3;

9. Retelling of vision. 11:9;

10. Not hesitating to go to Gentiles. 11:12;

11. Opposing God. 11:17;

**12. Gentiles granted repentance to life.
11:18;**

13. Story is reviewed. Acts 15:6-9;

14. Also Romans Chap 1, 2, 3, 11, 15;

**Acts 11:18; Peter has shown
Why Jews were to Accept Gentiles.**

See the SAD postscript in Acts 11:19;

**“So then those who were scattered
because of the persecution that arose
in connection with Stephen
made their way to Phoenicia
and Cyprus and Antioch,
speaking the word
to no one except to Jews alone.”**

CONCLUSION.

The assembly that began with an **all-Jewish** membership is **now about to be expanded to include Gentiles** in a universal spiritual kingdom **as God had always planned.**

(Matt 28:19-20; Ephesians 2:11-22;)

It took a supernatural effort on God's part to accomplish this feat.

Neither Peter despite what he had already preached **nor any of the Jewish disciples.**

Would ever have considered going to the Gentiles with the gospel or of accepting them as equals without circumcising them and **making them subject to the laws of Israel.**

Speaking in Tongues / Languages.

By Ellis Jones.

1 Corinthians 14:10;

**There are, perhaps, a great many kinds
of languages in the world,
and no kind is without meaning.**



**Men spoke many languages,
But understood God's meaning.
Because when God's prophets spoke,
God's Spirit did the screening.**

**They had no way of knowing
If what they heard was true.
The new law not yet written,
Could not be read as now you do.**



**In the church's childhood
There was a special need
To convince the hearers
When sowing gospel seed.**

**God's Word then was partial,
But soon would be complete.
To inspire all the pieces
Had been the Spirit's feat.**



**The pieces came together;
The puzzle was complete.
Now it will stand forever;
It's never obsolete.**

**God's word now is written;
A copy all can have.
Those by error blinded,
Now have the gospel salve.**



**Gifts that gave the partial
Long since have passed away.
But these three: faith, hope and love
Empower us today.**

**In Part
Partial**



**Perfect
Complete**



Acts 10:24 to 11:18; Cornelius Conversion.

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Next in the series:-

Acts 11 19 to 12:25a

The gospel spreads despite persecution.