

# Preaching Christ To The Gentiles

Acts 10

## History Between Jews and Gentiles

- **Gentile**, a person who is not Jewish.  
<https://www.britannica.com>  
(cf. Genesis 10:5)

### Jews and Gentiles in the Old Testament.

- Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 12:37; 38:26;  
Deuteronomy 7:6-8
- Esther 9:1, 5
- Jonah
- Isaiah 2:2; Romans 11:25; cf. 11:11-14

## Who Was Cornelius? Acts 10:1-8

- Cornelius was a man of Caesarea.
- He was a “Centurion” verse 1.
  - What was his job?
- He was a “devout” man.
- Feared God with all of his household. verse 2
- Charitable ... He gave many alms to the Jewish people. verse 2.
- Prayed to God continually. verse 2
- He was a just man, of good report. verses 22, 24.
- He needed the gospel. Acts 11:14

## Cornelius and His Vision

Acts 10:1-8

- **God remembers His promise.** 10:4-8  
(Genesis 12:3; 22:18)
  - All nations would be blessed in Abraham’s seed. Acts 2:39; 3:25-26
  - The Seed is Christ. Galatians 3:16
  - God will bring lost Gentiles into contact with *the gospel of Christ* and save them just like Jews were being saved. Acts 15:7-9
  - Cornelius sent men to Joppa for Peter. 10:5-8



## Cornelius sends for Peter

Acts 10:1-8

## Peter and His Vision

Acts 10:9-33

- **Convinced to go to a Gentile.** 10:9-23
  - Unclean meats forbidden by Law of Moses. Leviticus 11:46-47 (44-45)
    - Christ purified all foods. Mark 7:19; 1 Timothy 4:4-5
- Devout Jews considered Gentiles unclean. (Acts 10:28; 11:1-3)
  - Gospel is for all, without partiality. 10:15, 34-35
  - Therefore, Peter went without objection. 10:20, 28-29
  - 6 Jewish brethren went. 10:23, 45; 11:12

## Peter and His Vision

Acts 10:9-33

- **Audience ready to hear.** 10:24, 27, 33
  - Peter explained how he got there. 10:28
  - Cornelius explained why he sent for him. 10:29-33
  - Prepared to hear the gospel of Christ. 10:33 (Luke 8:8, 18)

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## Peter Preaches to Gentiles

Acts 10:34-43

- **Peter begins to preach Christ.** 10:34-43; cf. Acts 2
- God is impartial (fear and obey Him). 10:34-35
- “*Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all).*” 10:36
- Jesus was *approved* by God. 10:38
- Jews *killed* him. 10:39
- God *raised* him and witnesses saw him. 10:40-41
- Apostles charged to *preach*. 10:42 (Mark 16:15)
- Jesus the ordained *Judge* of all. 10:42
- All the prophets *testified* of him. 10:43
- “*Whosoever*” (KJV) believes receives *remission of sins*. 10:43

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## Miracles Involved With The Conversion Of Cornelius:

- Cornelius saw a vision. (Verses 3-6) Miracle # 1
- Something Cornelius must do.
- Peter saw a vision. (Verses 9-16) Miracle # 2
- Something Peter must do.
- The Holy Spirit poured out. (Verse 44; 11:15) Miracle # 3

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## Why Was The Holy Spirit Given To Cornelius?

1. Not to save him. Acts 11:13-14; cf. James 1:21
2. Not to give faith. Acts 15:7
3. Not to purify heart. Acts 15:9
4. Not to give remission of sins. Acts 10:43; Acts 2:38
5. Not to purify soul. 1 Peter 1:22
6. Not to convert. Psalms 19:7
7. Not to sanctify. John 17:17
8. Not to beget them preparatory to the new birth. Men are begotten by the word of God. 1 Corinthians 4:15

## Why Was The Holy Spirit Given To Cornelius?

- To fulfill prophecy. Joel 2:28; cf. Acts 2:16ff
- Not to change Cornelius, but for the instruction of Peter and the six Jews.
  - Note: Peter’s response (10:47) and his arguments used at Jerusalem (11:17; 15:8-9); cf. 1 Corinthians 14:22
  - Note: The Jews therefore, “*Held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then to the Gentiles also hath God granted repentance unto life.*” Acts 11:18
- Those six Jewish brethren who accompanied Peter, now had seen Gentiles speak with tongues and glorify God just as the Jews had some 8 - 10 years earlier. cf. Acts 10:23; 11:12, 15

## Holy Spirit on Gentiles

Acts 10:44-48 (11:15-17)

- **The miracle.** 10:44
- **Its effect on Gentiles.** 10:46
- **Its effect on Jewish Christians.** 10:45
  - Peter remembered Pentecost. 11:15-17 (2:17)
  - Confirmation of Gentile inclusion. 10:47-48

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## Holy Spirit on Gentiles

Acts 10:44-48 (11:15-17)

- **Result of this miracle.** 10:47-48
  - It was God's testimony that **Gentiles** could become Christians (saved by faith in Christ Jesus). Acts 15:8-9
  - God showed **no distinction**: The Lord saves **ALL** who believe and obey. 10:36, 43 (15:9)
  - No one can forbid **Gentiles** the gospel and its blessings. Acts 2:37-38; 8:16, 36-38 (10:47)
- **The gospel includes the command to be baptized.** 10:48; 1 Peter 3:21; Hebrews 5:9

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## Salvation of Gentiles

- After visions, inspired instruction plus the Holy Spirit falling on Gentiles, Jewish Christians are convinced that Christ (His gospel and salvation) is for the whole world. cf. 11:18
- **The power of the gospel:**
  - Power to overcome prejudices, fears, and doubts, 10:34-35
  - Power to overcome sin in all who believe and obey, 10:36, 43 (35)

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## How Was Cornelius Converted?

1. He heard the gospel. Acts 10:33
2. Believed the gospel. Acts 15:7
3. Repented. Acts 11:18
4. Baptized. Acts 10:48; cf. Acts 11:1; 2:41

➤ The word was the instrument involved in the conversion of Cornelius. We too must hear and obey that same gospel.