

¹ There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment,

CENTURION Officer in the Roman army, nominally in command of 100 soldiers. In [Matt. 8:5](#) a centurion who lived at Capernaum approached Jesus on behalf of his ailing servant. In [Mark 15:39](#) a centurion who witnessed the crucifixion identified Jesus as the Son of God. In [Acts 10](#) the conversion of the centurion Cornelius marked the beginning of the church's outreach to the Gentile world. In [Acts 27:3](#) the centurion Julius treated the Apostle Paul with courtesy. These passages illustrate the generally favorable impression made by the centurions who appear in the NT. They were usually career soldiers, and they formed the real backbone of the Roman military force.

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.

² a devout *man* and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.

Note Acts 10:21

³ About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"

Acts 10:3 (NIV) One day at **about three in the afternoon** he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

⁴ And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?" So he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.

⁵ Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter.

⁶ He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do."

The E.S.V. The N.A.S. & The N.I.V. do not have the last sentence "***He will tell you what you must do***"

HOWEVER in Acts 11:14 all of the versions state the Peter was bringing a message by which they would be saved.

⁷ And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who waited on him continually.

⁸ So when he had explained all *these* things to them, he sent them to Joppa.

About a **30 mile trip** between Caesarea and Joppa --- see map page 41

⁹ The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour.

Acts 10:9 (NIV) **About noon** the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.

¹⁰ Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance

¹¹ and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth.

¹² In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air.

¹³ And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat."

¹⁴ But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean."

Unclean --- Leviticus 11:1-47 & Deuteronomy 14:3-21

¹⁵ And a voice *spoke* to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common."

¹⁶ This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.

¹⁷ Now while Peter wondered within himself what this vision which he had seen meant, behold, the men who had been sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate.

¹⁸ And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there.

¹⁹ While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you.

²⁰ Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."

²¹ Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius, and said, "Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?"

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."

²³ Then he invited them in and lodged *them*. On the next day Peter went away with them, and **some brethren from Joppa** accompanied him.

Acts 11:12 (NKJV) 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 10:45 (NKJV) And **those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter**, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

²⁴ And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives and close friends.

²⁵ As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped *him*.

²⁶ But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man."

Also see --- Revelation 22:8-9

²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together.

²⁸ Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Peter understands his vision --- **Acts 10:10-15**

²⁹ Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?"

³⁰ So Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

Acts 10:30 (NIV) 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

Remember Acts 10:3

³¹ and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God.

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.**'

Acts 11:13-14 (NKJV) ¹³ And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, ¹⁴ who will **tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.**'

³³ So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, **to hear all the things commanded you by God.**"

³⁴ Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.

³⁵ But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.

See: **Acts 9:31, 2nd Corinthians 7:1 & 1st Peter 1:13-17**

Acts 10:35 (ESV) but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

³⁶ The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ--He is Lord of all—

³⁷ that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:

³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

³⁹ And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree.

⁴⁰ Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly,

⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.

⁴² And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead.

⁴³ To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."

See = Acts 2:14-42

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.

⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

Acts 2:4-12 - - - Tongues = Languages

⁴⁷ "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?"

⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

Acts 15:7-9 (NKJV) ⁷ And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, **that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.** ⁸ So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us, ⁹ and made no distinction between us and them, **purifying their hearts by faith.**

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Acts 11:13-14 (NKJV) ¹³ And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter,

¹⁴ who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.'

Romans 1:16 (NKJV) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Acts 8:4 (NKJV) ⁴ Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.

Questions Acts 10

1. What do we know about Cornelius?

Questions Acts 10

2. Who did Cornelius send to Peter? Why?
3. What was Peter doing when he received a vision and what was the meaning of the vision?
4. Who accompanied Peter as he went to the home of Cornelius?
5. What was the initial response of Cornelius as he met Peter and how did Peter respond?
6. Describe the ATTITUDE that Cornelius had as he prepared to hear the message that Peter was going to proclaim.
7. Who is accepted by God?
8. What happened that caused those of the circumcision (who believed) to be astonished?
9. How was Cornelius and those who were with him saved?
10. Summarize this chapter.