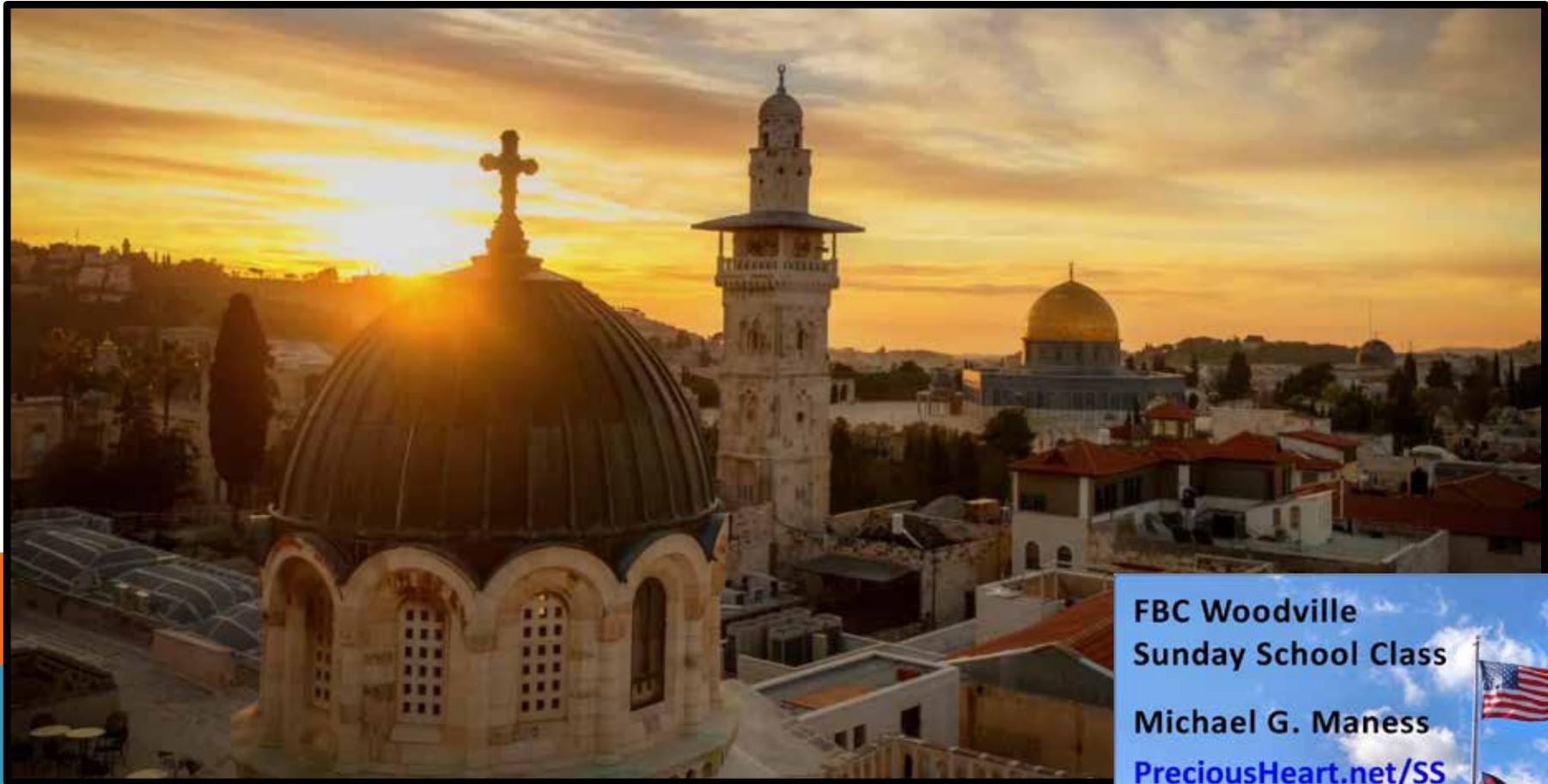


**Lesson 12 – May 22**

# **Acts of the Apostles in the Early Church**

## ***Accepting***



FBC Woodville  
Sunday School Class  
Michael G. Maness  
[PreciousHeart.net/SS](https://PreciousHeart.net/SS)  
... *Click Here*



# Early Church to Antioch

1. Mar 6	Entrusted	1:1-26	wait for gift
2. Mar 13	Empowered	2:1-15	Pentecost
3. Mar 20	Unified	2:41-47	Fellowship, Pray, Bread, giving
4. Mar 17	Resurrected!	Luke 24:1-12	Easter Evangelistic Emphasis
5. Apr 3	Courageous	3:1 – 4:31	Peter and John Bold
6. Apr 10	Integrity	4:32 – 5:16	Ananias & Sapphira
7. Apr 17	Faithful	5:17-42	Peter arrested, Gamaliel
8. Apr 24	Selfless	6:1 – 8:3	seven chosen & Stephen
9. May 1	Obedient	8:4-40	Angel, Phillip, Candace
10. May 8	Converted	9:1-31	Paul blinded, then sees
11. May 15	Bold	10:1 – 11:30	Peter raises Tabitha

***12. May 22 Accepting 10:1 – 11:30 Peter's vision—EAT***

13. May 29      Extraordinary      12:1-25      Peter freed from prison



## Alternate Title for Lesson

# Eating for the Kingdom



in Ancient  
Caesarea



# Accepting

*10:1-9 – Angel visits Cornelius ... sends for Peter*

**10:9-15** **Vision** – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat

*10:16-42 – Cornelius' men ... Spirit speaks ... off to Caesarea  
... Cornelius tells his vision ... Peter tells gospel*

**10:43** **Declaration** – All Prophets testify ... forgiveness

**10:44-46** **Sign** – Spirit comes ... Gentile Pentecost

**10:46-48** **Acceptance** – Baptized in the name of Jesus Christ

*11:1-30 – Peter tells Jerusalem of his and Cornelius' visions*



## **Context, or *after-text* – Acts 11 – *after Cornelius***

**11:1-4 ... The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.**

**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.**”**

**Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story ...**

**Peter told Jerusalem church his and Cornelius’ visions during their visit to Caesarea and Spirit Coming**



**Verses 19-30**

## **Context – Acts 11**

- ü **Persecution after Stephen ... gospel spreads Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch **ONLY AMONG THE JEWS****
- ü **Some from Cyprus and Cyrene tell **non-Jew Greeks in Antioch****
- ü **v. 11:21 “Lord’s hand was with them.”**
- ü **Barnabas sent to Antioch ... then goes to Tarsus for Paul, then two of them teach MANY for a year**

# **Disciples were first called Christians at Antioch**

**Acts 11:26**

**Agabus predicts famine ... church sends aid Judea**



# Lesson on Acts 10 – visions of Peter & Cornelius

## Vision of Cornelius the Centurion

Gerbrand van den  
Eeckhout

c. 1663



# Watch as the passage unfolds for the Work of God

ü Notice that an **Angel** talks to Cornelius

ü **Spirit** talks to Peter – *talk about connected*

**Very Remarkable chapter ... notice this**

ü If ever there was a **DIVINE** appointment, this was “set up” step by step by God

ü Set up in **TWO** cities at the same time

ü Perhaps, this event is the **MOST** meticulously “set up” appointment in Scripture



# Accepting

*10:1-9 – Angel visits Cornelius ... sends for Peter*

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*11:1-30 – Peter tells Jerusalem of his and Cornelius' visions*

**in our last Lesson 13 ... Acts 12  
Angel frees Peter from prison**

***enter Paul ... Peter in briefly in 15 ... rest Paul***



## **Key Doctrine – *Salvation***

**Salvation is offered freely to all who  
accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour**



**IV. Salvation.** Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and **is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour**, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, sanctification, and glorification.

**A. Regeneration ... B. Sanctification ... C. Glorification**



Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat**

**On the morrow, as they [Cornelius' men] went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,**

**“while they made ready” ... what does that mean?**

**killing ... plucking ... stocking fire ... cooking**

***lot more work for a meal back then***





**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat**

**10:11-13 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:**

**Term used in “sheet knit” at corners is in ancient Greek medicine for bandage of sorts  
Caduceus is the winged staff of Hermes w/ snakes,  
the symbol of commerce – yet, today, medicine  
Rod of Asclepius, God of Healing**



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**Mistakenly came into vogue from  
Army Med Corp adoption in 1902**

***Hellenism after 2500 years***



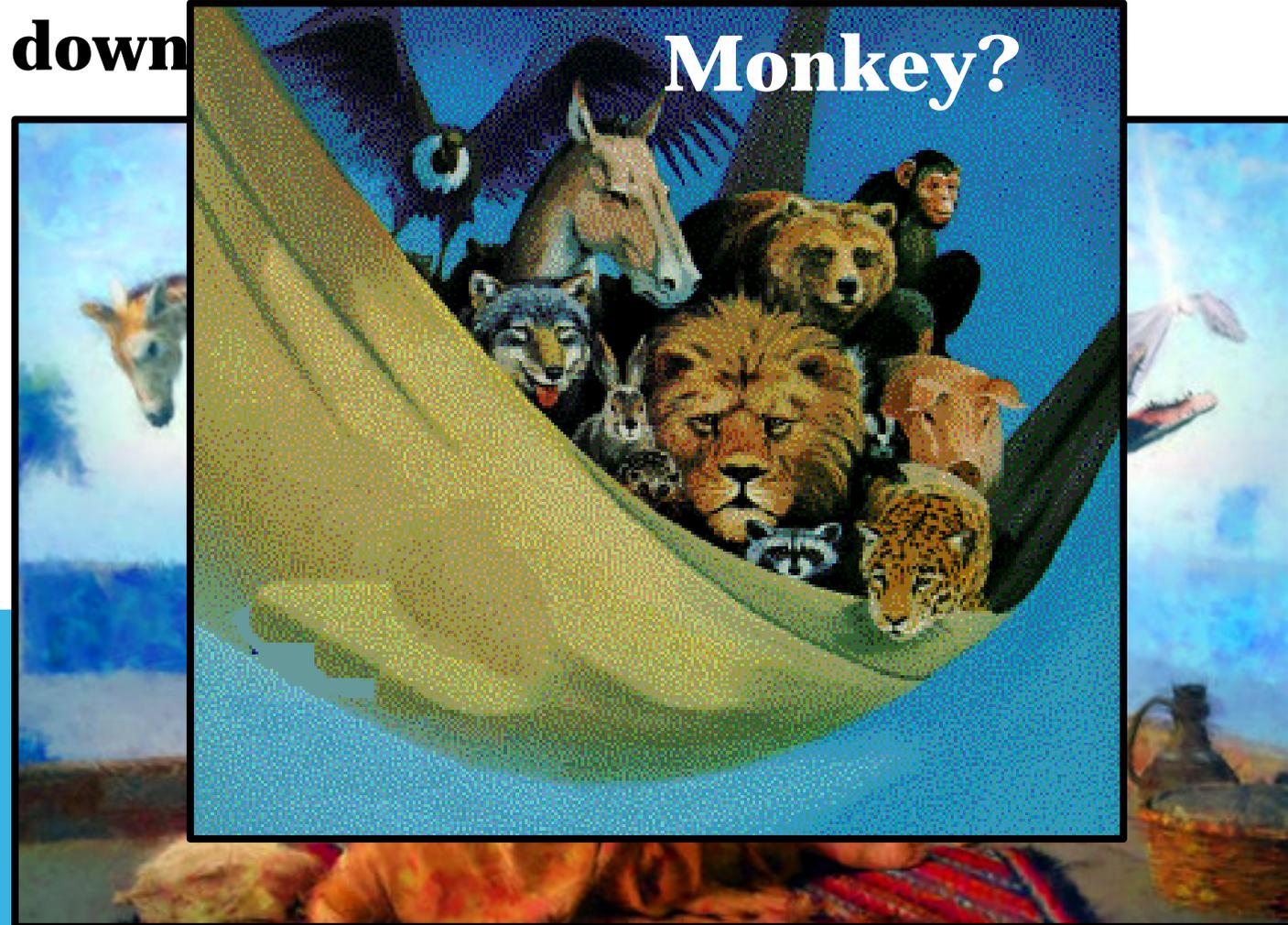
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**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat**

10:11-13 An  
descend  
the four c

at



## **10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat**

**10:11-13 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:**

**Very Clear Message of SOME sort**

**Wherein were all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, “Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.”**

# **Eating for the Kingdom**





# Eating for the Kingdom



No one does it better than Baptists

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**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat 9-15**

**10:14-15 But Peter said, “Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.”**

***Hmm ... spent time with Simon the Tanner and NEVER (?) ate anything unclean?!?***

**I think so ... Peter was a good Jew ...**

**Yet he SAW a lot of unclean cooking**

**And the voice spake unto him again the **second time**, “What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.”**



**Chapters 10 & 11, Peter says  
this happens THREE times**

**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... eat 9-15**

**And the voice spake unto him again the second time,  
“What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.”**

**You KNOW that means?**

**We ALL know what that means**

**yes, we do!**



**10:9-15 Vision – Heaven open ... sheet down ... 15**

**And the voice spoke ...  
“What C ...”**



**Bacon**

## interlude

*10:16-42 – Cornelius’ men arrive ... Spirit speaks ... off to Caesarea ... Cornelius tells his vision ... Peter tells gospel*

**10:22** The men replied, “We have come from **Cornelius the centurion**. He is a righteous and **God-fearing man**, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say.”



# Vision of Cornelius the Centurion

Gerbrand van den  
Eeckhout

c. 1663



# Centurion Cornelius

- ü **Common since 82 BC when Publius Cornelius Sulla (100-45 BC) emancipated 10,000 slaves**
- ü **Cornelius the Centurion considered First Gentile Convert**
- ü **In N.T., ALL spoken of in GOOD LIGHT ... said to be chosen for their temperament, deliberation, strength of mind**
- ü **At Cross, Centurion, “Truly this man was the Son of God.”**
- ü **Centurion over 100 soldiers, of Italian Cohort of about 1,000 and a cohort was a 10th part of a Legion**
- ü **Many awarded citizenship when term of service was done**

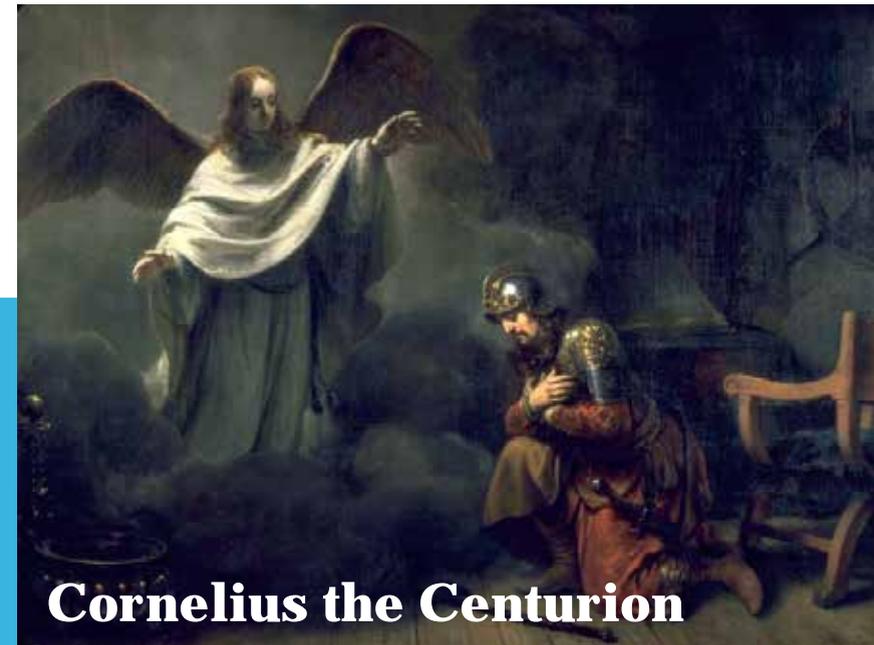
**No Legions in Judea to AD 66 for Jewish revolt**  
**Acts 27:1 we see “Augustan Cohort”**



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**Cornelius the Centurion**

# God-fearers

- ü **People that feared God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob – *dah!***
- ü **People that feared God of Judaism 3rd century BC to date**
- ü **Friends of Hellenistic Jews, learning, listening, praying**
- ü **Acts 13:50 women of esteem in Pisidian Antioch**
- ü **Acts 17:4 Greeks from Thessalonica**
- ü **Acts 17:17 people found in synagogues in Athens**
- ü **Acts 18:7 man from Corinth**

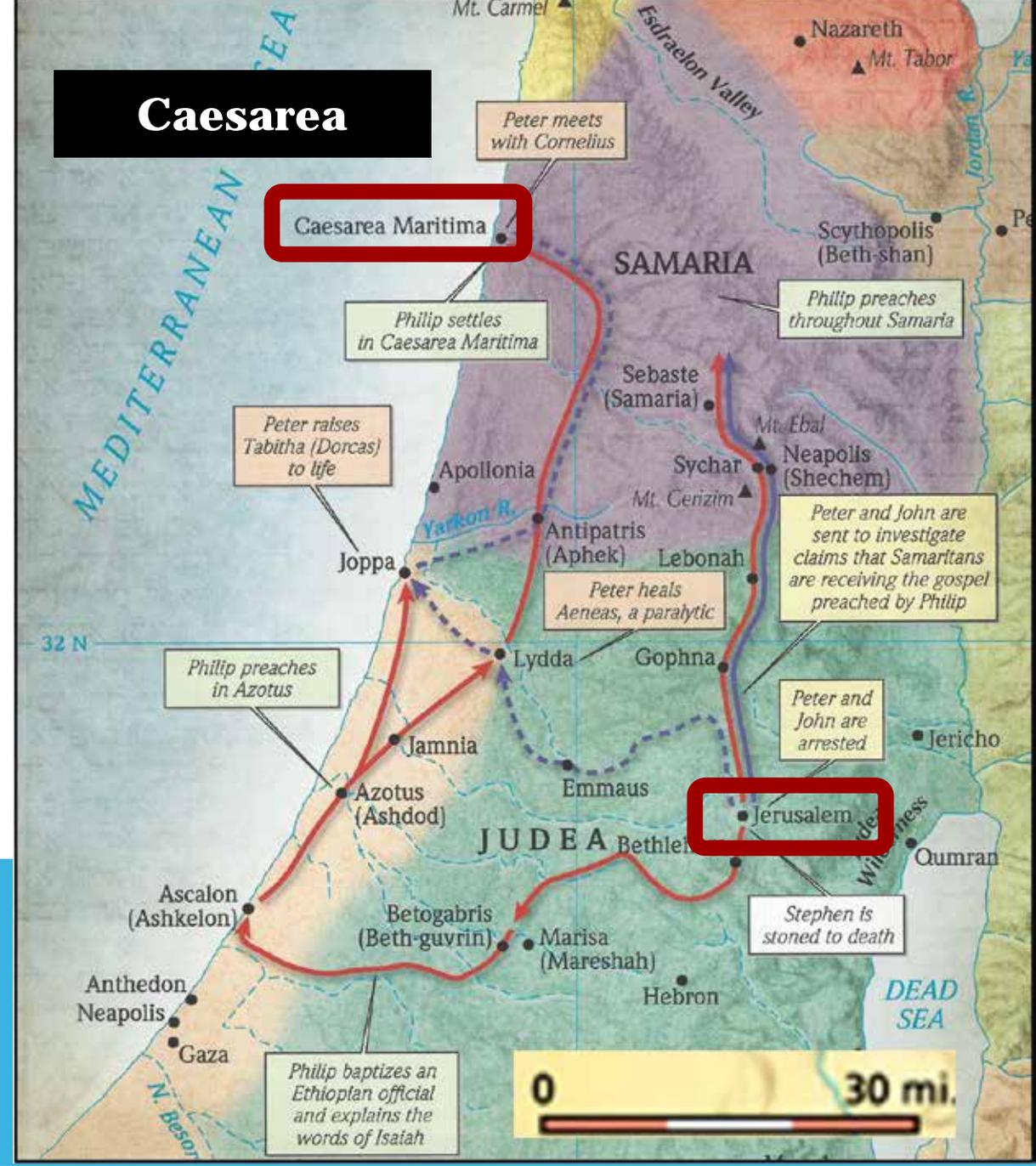
## Peter off to Caesarea

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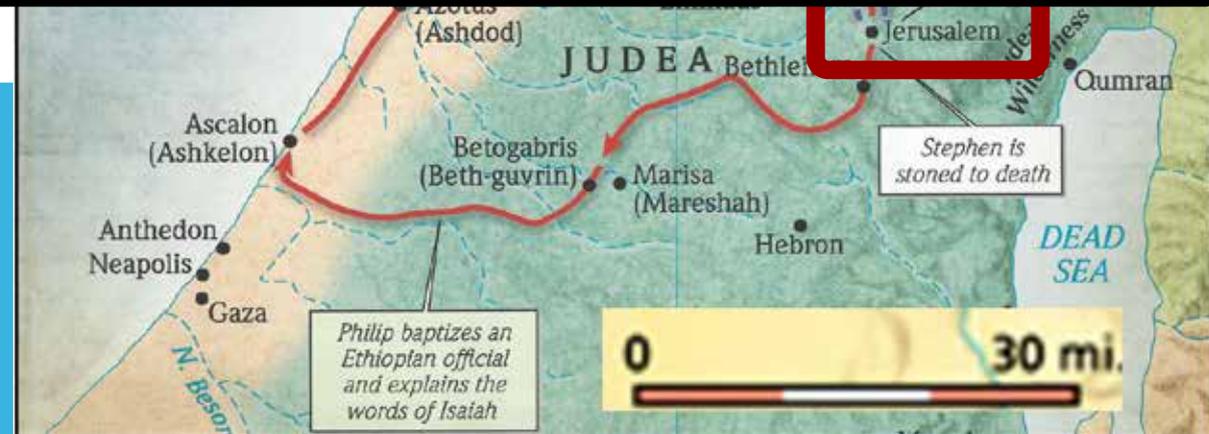
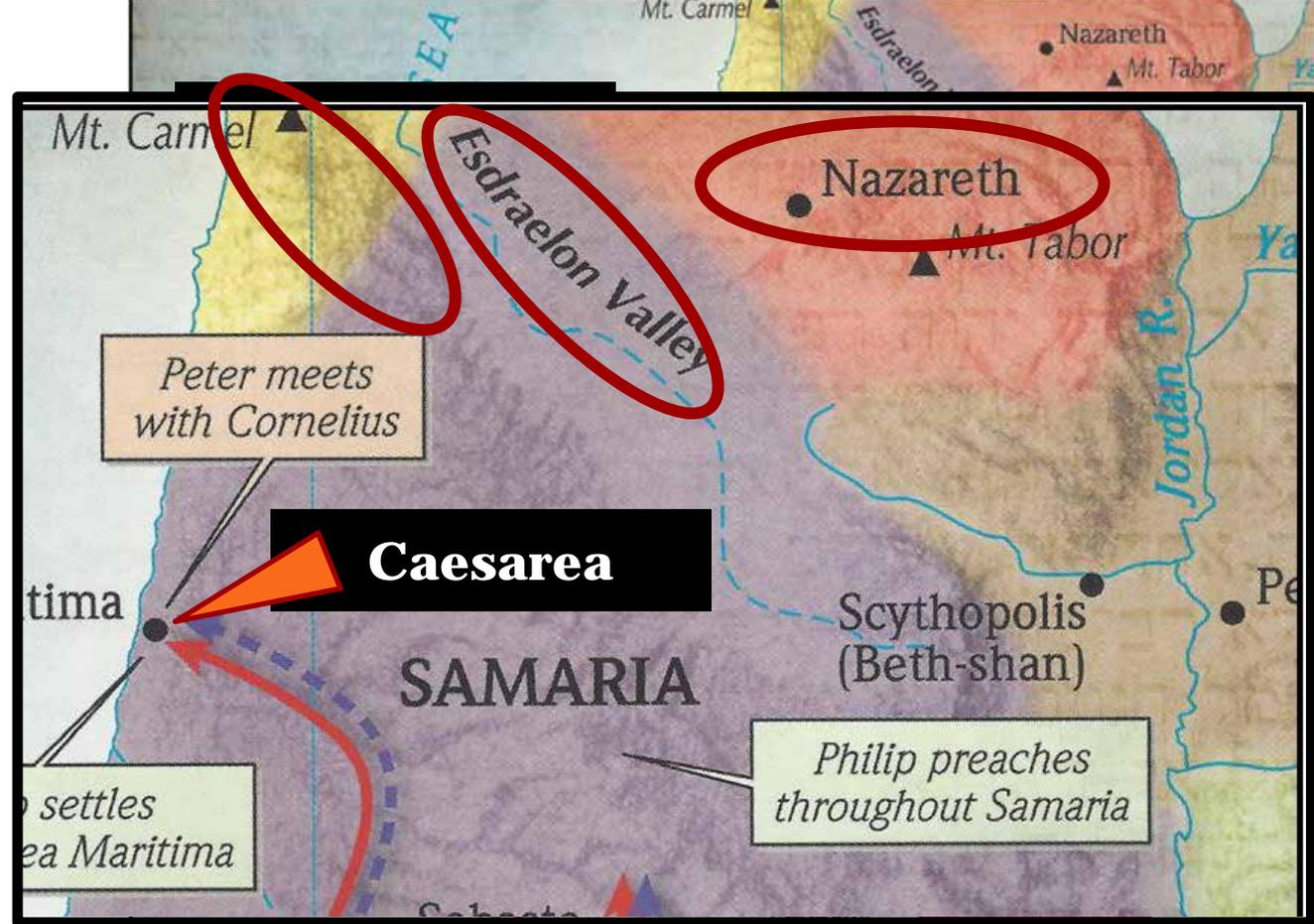
# Caesarea

- ü Built by Herod the Great
- ü 25-13 BC in honor of Augustus (27 BC to AD 14)
- ü Roman HQ Judea



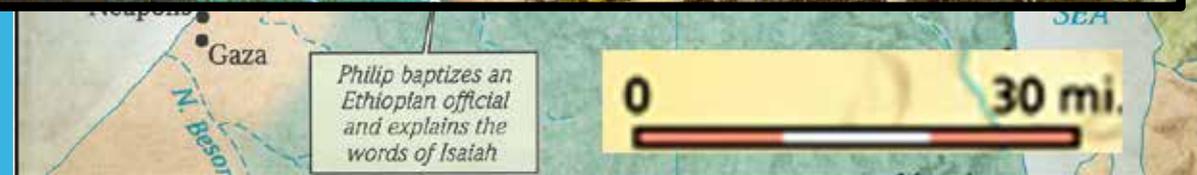
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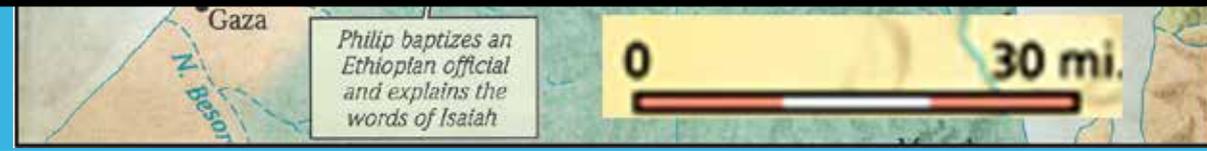
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# Caesarea

- ü Built by Herod the Great
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- ü Roman HQ Judea
- ü Great Deep Sea Port
- ü Great Theater, 4,000



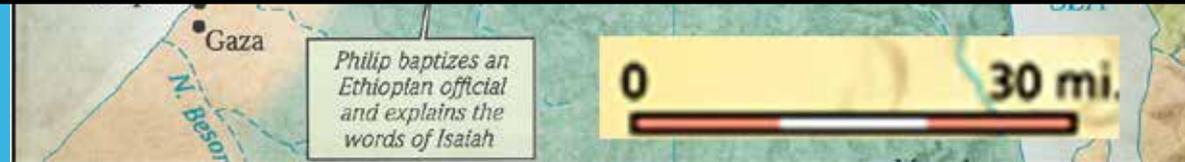
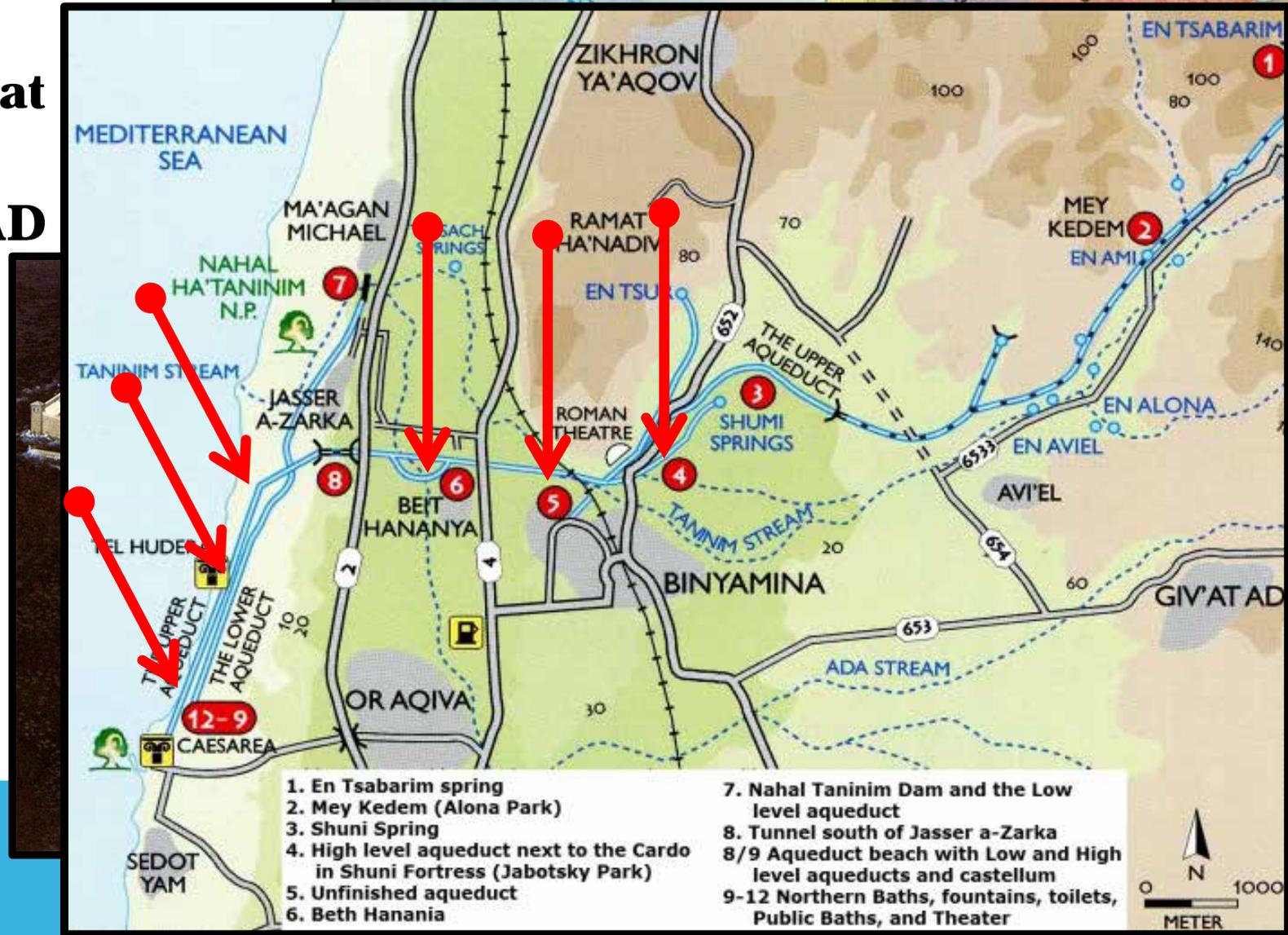
# Caesarea

- ü Built by Herod the Great
- ü 25-13 BC in honor of Augustus (27 BC to AD 14)
- ü Roman HQ Judea
- ü Great Deep Sea Port
- ü Great Theater, 4,000
- ü Hippodrome, 10,000



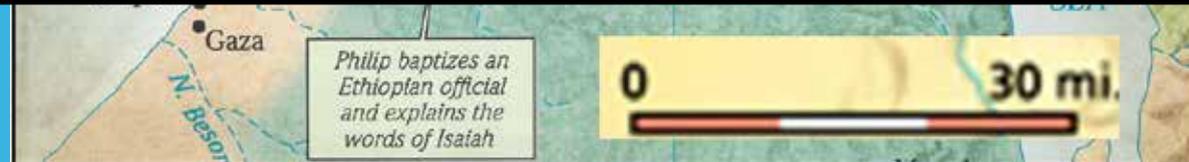
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  - 4.5 miles
  - 300 m<sup>3</sup> hour
  - supply 50,000



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## Bulgaria

Plovdiv Aqueduct

## Croatia

Burnum Aqueduct

Diocletianus Aqueduct

## France

Pont du Gard in France

Aqueduct from Gorze to Metz, France

Pont du Gard, southern France

Barbegal aqueduct

Aqueduct of the Gier

Luynes, Indre-et-Loire

Nîmes

Aqueduct from Gorze to Metz

## Germany

Eifel aqueduct

## Greece

Argos, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Athens, Peisistratid Aqueduct

Athens, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Athens, Long Walls Aqueduct

Athens, Late Roman aqueduct

Corinth, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Kavala aqueduct, Kavala

Mytilene, Lesbos

Nicopolis, Thessaly

Patras

## Italy

Aqua Claudia

Aqua Anio Novus

Aqua Augusta, Naples

Pont d'Aël, Aosta Valley

Aqua Appia, Rome

Aqua Virgo, Rome

Aqua Alexandrina, Rome

Aqua Anio Novus, Rome

Aqua Alsietina, Rome

## Israel

Caesarea Maritima, Israel

## Lebanon

Aqueduct of Zubaida, Beirut

Aqueduct of Tyre, Tyre

Aqueduct of Msaylha, Batroun

Aqueduct of Nahr Ibrahim, Jbeil

## Portugal

Aqueduto de São Sebastião, Coimbra

## Macedonia

Skopje Aqueduct

## Spain

Los Milagros Aqueduct in Mérida

Almuñécar (5 w/ 4 still in use)

Albarracín, Gea-Cella

Aqua Marcia, Dorchester, Dorset

Barcino

## Bejís

Caños de Carmona

Cordoba (Aqua Fontis Aureae)

Itálica

Las Medulas

les Ferreres, Tarragona

Los Banales

Los Milagros Aqueduct

Lugo

Noain

Onuba Aestuarria

Peña Cortada

Rabo de Buey-San Lázaro

Aqueduct of Segovia

Toledo

Valdepuentes

## Tunisia

Aqueduct of Hadrian

## Turkey

Aqueduct of Valens

Aspendos, Antalya Province

Lamas Aqueduct, Mersin Province

## United Kingdom

Dolaucothi

Dorchester, Dorset

Lancaster

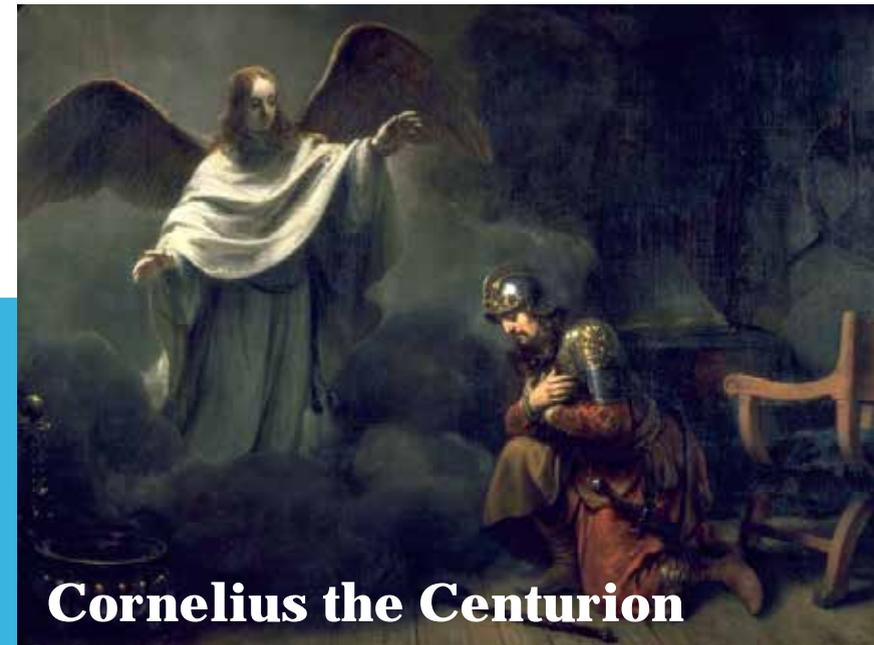
# Roman Aqueducts

*10:16-42 – Cornelius’ men arrive ... Spirit speaks ... off to Caesarea  
... Cornelius tells his vision ... Peter tells gospel*

**10:28-29 ... But God has shown me that I should not call  
anyone impure or unclean. ...**

**May I ask why you sent for me?”**

*Cornelius explains his vision to call Peter*



**Cornelius the Centurion**

*10:16-42 – Cornelius’ men arrive ... Spirit speaks ... off to Caesarea ... Cornelius tells his vision ... Peter tells gospel*

**10:34-42 Peter tells the gospel: God, NO favoritism....  
accepts from every nation ...  
good news of peace through Jesus Christ ...  
God anointed Jesus of Nazareth ... does good, heals all  
They killed ... hanging him on a cross ...  
God raised from the dead ... seen by witnesses....**



*10:16-42 – Cornelius’ men arrive ... Spirit speaks ... off to Caesarea ... Cornelius tells his vision ... Peter tells gospel*

**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.”**

***What was the full message like?***

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**10:43 Declaration – All Prophets testify ... forgiveness**

**10:43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.**

**All the prophets testify**



**10:43 Declaration – All Prophets testify ... forgiveness**

**Testify to what?**

**All the prophets testify**

**everyone who believes in him receives  
forgiveness of sins through his name.**



**10:43 Declaration – All Prophets testify ... forgiveness**

**All the prophets testify**

**Greatest act of God in Christ that opens  
the Christian to all the blessings of God**

**Forgiveness of God**



## **10:44-46 Sign – Spirit comes ... Gentile Pentecost**

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

### **Gentile Pentecost**

**10:45-46 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were **astonished** that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.**

***yes ... even THOSE folks received the Spirit***



## Galatians 3:24-29

**24-25 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.**

**26-27 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.**



## Galatians 3:24-29

**28-29 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.**

***All fulfilled in Christ ... United, Freed in Christ  
Not just about Food or bacon anymore***



# **Dawn of the Church**

**Focus moves from Judaism and the Temple**

**To the spread of the N.T. Church**

- ü ***Not separation by circumcision***
- ü ***Not separation by food and ritual***
- ü ***Not separation by clean and unclean***

**United in Christ for Kingdom of God**



**10:46-48 Acceptance – Baptized in the name of Jesus Christ**

**10:46-48 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just **as we have.**”**

**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.**



**No spiritual symbol in “eating”**  
**No Great Theology inherent in EATING**  
**However, there is a GREAT simplicity**  
**we ALL eat ... all MUST eat ...**  
**in “communion” there is UNION**



**We could talk about the Baptist  
ordinance of the Lord's Supper  
our self-examination with bread & wine  
symbolizing our union in Christ**

***yet, this was just the  
beginning of the church***





FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
MEETS HERE!  
PASTOR  
COLLIN BULLARD  
SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.  
SCHOOL CELEBRATION 10:45 A.M.  
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**So Peter stayed with them for a few days.  
a Jew worshiped with a Gentile  
and he ate well**



staying in  
**Ancient  
Caesarea**





FBC Woodville  
Sunday School Class  
Michael G. Maness  
[PreciousHeart.net/SS](http://PreciousHeart.net/SS)  
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*May we accept the God's  
Forgiveness  
and eat well*