

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

TEACHINGS FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

RLJ-1036

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PART 2: BUILDING FAITH

BUILDING FAITH

The Book of Acts is indeed a living testimony that Jesus was resurrected and that the words He had spoken were true. **Mark 16:15-20**

- We are going to take a look at the beginning of the Apostle Peter's ministry as he ventured out beyond Jerusalem. For a short while, the persecution stopped from the Jewish leadership. **Acts 9:31**
- Peter started to travel and ministered along the way as he visited the local churches. When he came to Lydda, God performed a miracle through him; a man lame for eight years was healed instantly. **verses 33-35**
- The city of Lydda was inland, but when the Christians in the coastal city of Joppa heard what had happened in Lydda, they wanted Peter to come and solve a problem they had with the death of Tabitha. **verses 36-43**

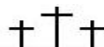
THE GENTILE QUESTION

Even though Jesus had told His disciples to preach to all people, they still stayed within the Jewish community and refused to obey Jesus' command (**Matthew 28:18-20**). Here is how God solved this problem:

- God moved upon a Roman Army officer. **Acts 10:1-3**
- Cornelius was given instructions from an angel to send for Peter. **verses 4-6**
- We can see again the combination of angels setting up things and the Holy Ghost convicting sinners while believers preach the Gospel.
- Cornelius obeyed at once. **verses 7-8**

THE PREPARATION OF PETER

- The Lord gave Peter a vision but not with a full explanation of it. **verses 9-17**
- The Holy Spirit moved into action by telling Peter to go with these men who suddenly showed up and not ask any questions! **verses 18-25**
- Arriving in Caesarea, Peter found a congregation. **verses 26-27**
- Peter openly stated that Jews are not supposed to have anything to do with Gentiles, but since God had sent him there, he asked them what they wanted from him. It is important to note that Peter did not see an open door for the Gentiles at this point! **verses 28-29**
- Cornelius told his story. **verses 30-33**
- At this point, Peter finally saw the light and began to preach the Gospel. **verses 34-43**



- ❑ The Holy Ghost did not wait for Peter to finish his sermon; the people in the house were baptized in the Holy Spirit when they heard the message, and repented in their hearts of their sins and believed that Jesus was the Son of God! **verses 44-46**
- ❑ Peter was now convinced that the Gospel was also for the Gentiles and he ordered that they should be baptized in water. **verses 47-48**

A MISUNDERSTOOD CHAPTER

- ❑ Over the years, ministers all over the world have been very careless, and instead of bringing out the real message from God in this chapter, they have focused on verses 10-16. They proclaim that God at this time declared that all kinds of animals were now clean, which previously had been unclean and not fit for consumption. In doing so, they have made the Lord's commandments null and void as found in Leviticus chapter 11.
- ❑ This is a terrible violation of God's Word, and brings judgment on the preachers when they tamper with the Word of God. **Revelation 22:16-21**
- ❑ **WHAT GOD SAID: Gentiles were not unclean as previously thought but that Jesus died for them too!**
- ❑ **WHAT GOD DID NOT SAY: All the animals we could not previously eat were now clean and good for consumption.**
- ❑ Look at what Jesus said in **Matthew 5:17-19**.
- ❑ Will a Christian go to hell if he eats pork? No! But he will most definitely shorten his life, risk getting cancer, and will end up in heaven long before his time was supposed to be up on this earth!

Do you have an ear to hear with?