

19—A Vision for Peter

Acts 10:1-20

1. Jesus gave Peter “*the keys of the kingdom of heaven*” (Matthew 16:19). Indeed, in Acts 2 he unlocks the door to salvation for the Jews on Pentecost. Years later, in Acts 10, Peter will open the door to salvation in Jesus Christ for the Gentiles. Who does Luke introduce us to in Acts 10? Where is he from? What is his role?

2. How do the Scriptures describe the character of Peter’s first Gentile prospect (Acts 10:1-2)? Would the general consensus of most people be that a man like this is saved or lost? Looking a chapter ahead, what do the Scriptures indicate about this man and his household at this point in time (Acts 11:13-14)?

Cornelius, the Centurion			
An accomplished man (10:1).	A God-fearing man (10:2)	A family man (10:2).	A charitable man (10:2).

3. According to the angel, had God heard the prayers of Cornelius (Acts 10:3-4)? Why did the “*angel of God*” not teach Cornelius the gospel? Do we ever find an instance of an angel revealing God’s plan of salvation to the lost?

4. How does Cornelius respond to the instructions of the angel (see Acts 10:7-8)? How soon does he respond? What might the prompt response of Cornelius teach us?

Sunday Bible Study (05.23.2021)

5. There is a responsibility on the part of preachers to be willing to “*go into all the world*” (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19; Romans 10:14-17). Yet, does this passage seem to indicate there is also a responsibility on the part of the seeker to learn the truth (see Acts 10:5-7, 21-24)? What will be some good habits of a sincere seeker of truth?

6. Before Peter could teach Cornelius, what key lesson did Peter need to learn (Acts 10:9-20; 11:5-12)? Is this a theme in his sermon (see Acts 10:34, 43)?

7. What do the following Old Testament passages indicate to us about Peter’s hesitancy to obey the voice of God (See Leviticus 11:2-27; Deuteronomy 14:3-20)?

8. Peter struggled with going to the Gentiles in the first place (Acts 10:9-15). Mixing with the Gentiles was still a problem for him even after their inclusion with the church (see Galatians 2:11-14). Clearly, there will be some things as Christians that God may expect us to do that do not mesh with our traditions or inclinations. How can Peter’s great statement in Acts 11:17 help you in those moments?

9. How many times did Peter need to hear the voice which would encourage him to overcome his prejudices (see Acts 10:16)? Do people always “get it” the first time? What might this lesson teach us about repetition and follow-up?

10. How does the “Spirit” communicate with Peter in Acts 11:19-20? Is this a “vibe” or a “feeling” or an “impulse?” What do these other passages indicate about how the Spirit communicated with the apostles (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13; 1 Timothy 4:1)? Why is this important to understand as we consider the work of the Spirit?