

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What example should we follow regarding prejudice? (verse 34)
2. What results when believers become aware of their responsibility of the outreach of the church?
3. What evidence exists to verify that Cornelius was not saved before Peter brought the gospel to him?
4. Why didn't Peter perform laying on the hands for administering of the Holy Spirit as he did in Samaria?

SUMMARY:

It takes the power of God using the instrument of man to introduce the Gospel of Christ to the world. The blood of Jesus was shed for all humanity, as many as give their hearts and lives to Him, not just a select group. Believers today must not guardedly hold this message in a selfish way, but willingly share the gospel with lost souls regardless of differences in color, race, class or nationality. [\[SoF:15\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:7\]](#) We believe that the sinner may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ. [\[SoF:8\]](#) We believe that a saving faith will result in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God without which there is no salvation. [\[SoF:9\]](#) We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in a spiritual unity with Christ. [\[SoF13\]](#) We believe that God now commands all men to repent and be baptized, and that immersion is the scriptural mode of water baptism. But we believe that baptism should be administered to those alone who have believed on Christ and have been converted by Him, who have indeed died to sin, and have experienced a spiritual rebirth. [\[SoF15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us surrendering our personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout "all the world to every creature."

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #7

February 14, 2010

First Quarter

PETER PREACHES TO THE GENTILES

LESSON TEXT: *Acts 10:1-48*

LESSON SETTING: Towns of Caesarea and Joppa which are both on the Mediterranean Sea.

TIME: Approximately 40 AD

- I. CORNELIUS AND PETER PREPARED.** Acts 10:1-16
 - A. Given visions. Acts 10:3, 10
 - B. Given instructions. Acts 10:5-6, 13, 15
- II. PETER'S VIEWPOINT CHANGED.** Acts 10:17-33
 - A. Holy Spirit directs. Acts 10:19-20 [\[SoF:9\]](#)
 - B. Circumstance verifies. Acts 10:21-22, 24-25
 - C. Peter is willing. Acts 10:23, 29
 - D. God reveals. Acts 10:28, 33
- III. PETER'S SERMON DELIVERED.** Acts 10:34-43
 - A. Christ Uplifted. Acts 10:36, 38, 40; John 3:14
 - B. Salvation by Faith. Acts 10:43; Ephesians 2:8 [\[SoF:7,8\]](#)
- IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVEN.** Acts 10:44-48
 - A. By hearing the Word. Acts 10:44 [\[SoF 8\]](#)
 - B. To Gentiles also. Acts 10:45
 - C. Before Water Baptism. Acts 10:47-48 [\[SoF:9,13\]](#)

GOLDEN TEXT: *OF A TRUTH I PERCEIVE THAT GOD IS NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS.* Acts 10:34

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 11:19-30

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Matthew 18:18-20;
Ephesians 5:21-33

QUARTERLY THEME: The First Church Officers

TOPIC: THE CHRISTIANS AT ANTIOCH

INTRODUCTION:

The Jewish believers had been scattered by the severe persecution of the mother church in Jerusalem. However, God used these circumstances to spread the gospel into distant lands. The result was a missionary outreach to establish churches and also the first known “revival meeting” at Antioch.

All present believers, especially ministers, missionaries, and teachers can learn and be warmly encouraged by the effective working of the church at Antioch.

When believers are full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, many people will be added to the Lord. ^[SoF 9]

CENTRAL TRUTH: True Christians are those who are born of the Spirit and follow Christ. ^[SoF 13]

^[SoF:9] We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in a spiritual unity with Christ. ^[SoF:13] We believe that God now commands all men to repent and be baptized, and that immersion is the scriptural mode of water baptism. But we believe that baptism should be administered to those alone who have believed on Christ and have been converted by Him, who have indeed died to sin, and have experienced a spiritual rebirth.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE DISCIPLES WERE CALLED CHRISTIANS FIRST AT ANTIOCH.*

Acts 11:26

How inspiring to see how the early believers exhibited a spirit proper to followers of Jesus Christ, which is the very definition of the word Christian.

It seems strange that the disciples were not called “Christians” before the conversions at Antioch. Those believers lived up to this new title. On the contrary, today, how many want to be called “Christians” with little thought about how their lives should reflect the name of Jesus.

May we examine our lives to see if we are living according to the pattern and example of Jesus Christ and can truly be called Christians.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF February 15 – 21

M. *The Christians at Antioch. Acts 11:19-30
T. Discipline in the Church. Matthew 18:15-20
W. Division in the Church. 1 Corinthians 3:1-8
T. Working in the Church. Revelation 19:1-10
F. The Church, the Bride of Christ. Ephesians 5:21-33
S. The Triumph of the Church. Revelation 10:1-10
S. The Glory of the Church. Revelation 21:1-11