

PETER AND CORNELIUS: 2 VISIONS — ACTS 10:1-20

I GOD PREPARED THE RECEIVER — VISION OF CORNELIUS

Acts 10:1-8

① God Chooses the Receiver

v.1

- The first thing we learn is God chooses the receiver. There were a lot of possible guys that could have been saved. God singled out Cornelius to be the receiver of the Gospel.
- God is involved in choosing the one who receives the gospel, as well as the one who brings it (Jn.6:37,44; Ep.1:4; Ac.13:48).
- God is calling out His sheep. He has selected this one centurion named Cornelius.

② This Man Had a Mind to Know God

v.2

- Cornelius was sovereignly chosen by God, but he also had a searching heart. God responds to the willing heart (Je.29:13).
- God reached down and gave him the disposition to turn and seek God, even when he was dead in trespasses and sins.
- When God moves down and touches a life, He will fulfill the seeking that takes place in that heart to bring salvation. God always gives the light to the one who lives up to the light that he has.

③ God Had to Prepare the Receiver

v.3-4

- God moved on Cornelius when he was in prayer. Perhaps he asked God to know more about Him.
- God could not save him still apart from the true information. God is moving to give him the right information.

④ God Gives the Receiver the Opportunity to Respond Actively

v.5-8

- God could've said through this angel, "Do you believe the Gospel?" that is, believe on Jesus. God did not do that.
- God always wants to tie with faith an act of obedience. "If you believe in your heart" — **Romans 10:9-10**, and do what else? — "confess with your mouth, the Lord Jesus Christ, you'll be saved."
- Immediately after he sees the vision, he sends these guys out to Joppa. Notice the immediate obedience.
- Notice that God uses human instruments. God wanted to use Peter.

II GOD PREPARED THE MESSENGER — VISION OF PETER

Acts 10:9-20

① God Chooses the Messenger — v.9-16

- God prepared His messenger, Peter, in Joppa. Now God is in the business of choosing His messengers (Jn.15:16).
- If you feel God leading you strongly, be obedient! There's no greater joy than to know you're His chosen messenger.
- God is in the business not only of choosing the receivers, but He's also in the business of choosing the messengers.

② God's Perfect Timing — v.17-20

- God not only prepares the receiver and prepares the messenger, but He ordains the divine timing for just the moment.

VISION of Clean & Unclean animals = Jews & Gentiles
JEWS represent Clean & GENTILES represents Unclean
SHEET is the Church

- The Church was born in Heaven in the Mind of God
- Jews & Gentiles are to be mingled in the Church
- When the SHEET (Church) is finished it will be received into Heaven

