

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of

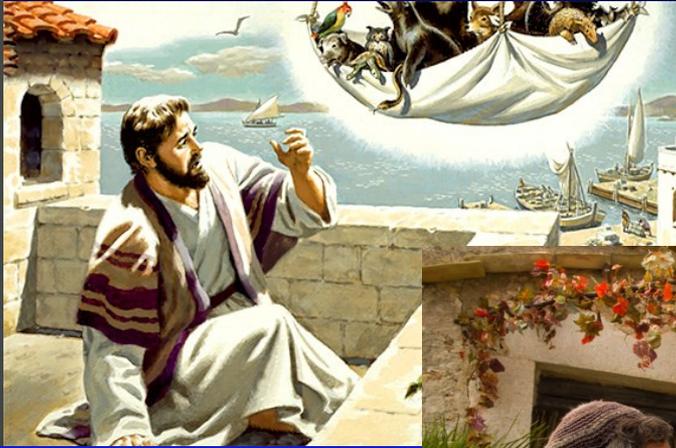


SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Church – The Beginnings, Part 27

Peter & Cornelius – Gospel to the Gentiles – Part 1

Acts 10:1-48







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There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, ² a devout man and one who feared God [along] with all his household, who gave ALMS generously to the people, and prayed to God always. (Acts 10:1-2)



Just like the Centurion that Jesus encountered, as recorded in the Gospels, Cornelius was devoted to the God of Israel, gave to Israel, and was charitable to Israeli needs. He prayed to God. He trusted in God – a Gentile.

Italian Regiment: The Cohortes II Militaria Italica Civium Romanorum

Consisted of 10 Centuries (10 Centurions) - Leaders

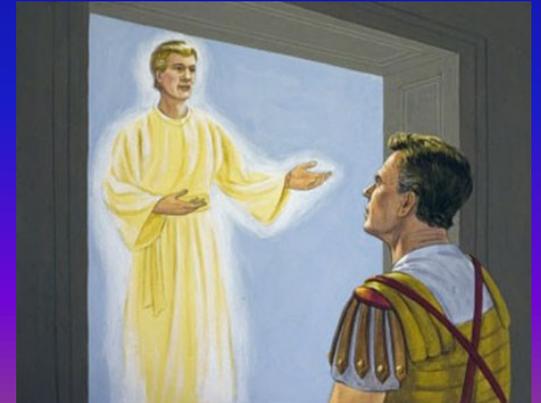
Centurion: similar to Company Commander or an Army Captain

**Centurions were less Military and more “Presence” “PR”
Their “employees” or “servants” would be more like family than “employees” ← Mixtures of ethnic groups**

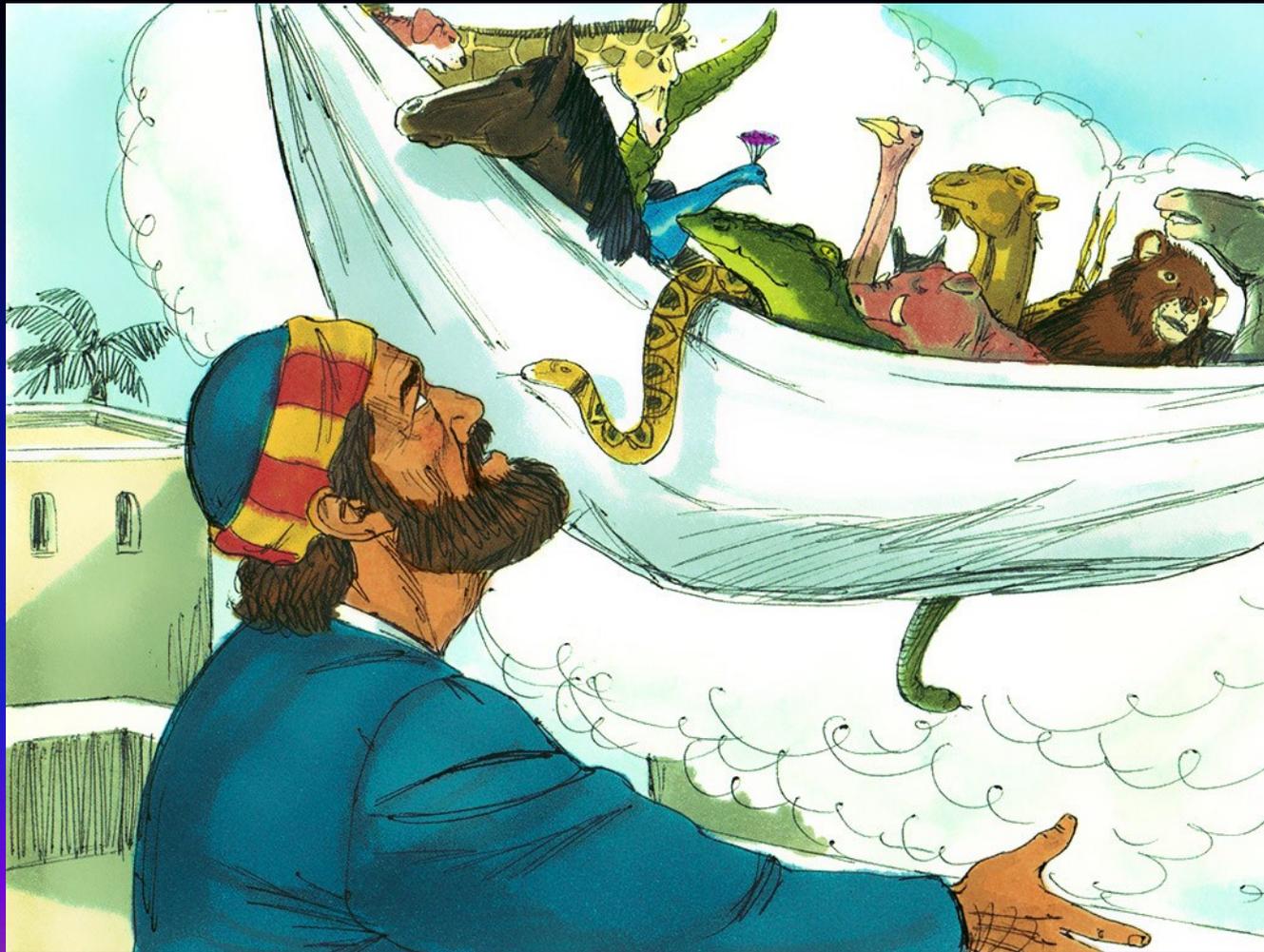
Cornelius would have been a winsome figure for Luke's Roman audience. Polybius said of centurions, the backbone of the Roman army, "They wish centurions not so much to be venturesome and daredevil as natural leaders, of a steady and sedate spirit. They do not desire them so much to be men who will initiate attacks and open the battle, but men who will hold their ground when worsted and hard pressed and be ready to die at their posts" (Histories 6.24.9). (ref. link for notes in your handout)

**Cornelius and His OIKOS (Household) trusted in God, as Gentile God-Fearers (not converts to Judaism)
Household includes wife, children, "servants", close friends, "employees" ... all that were close to Cornelius**

3 About the ninth hour of the day [about 3pm] he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, “Cornelius!” **4** And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, “What is it, lord?” So he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. **5** Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. **6** He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do.” **7** And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a DEVOUT soldier from among those who waited on him continually. **8** So when he had explained all these things to them, he sent them to Joppa.







9 The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour (about noon). **10** Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance **11** and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. **12** In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. **13** And a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” **14** But Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.” **15** And a voice spoke to him again the second time, “WHAT GOD HAS CLEANSED YOU MUST NOT CALL COMMON.” **16** This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.

HINT: The SHEET with Animals was not just about The Animals, those “Unclean” Animals ... It was really about ...



17 Now while Peter wondered within himself what this vision which he had seen meant, behold, the men who had been sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate. **18** And they called and asked whether Simon, whose surname was Peter, was lodging there.

19 While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. **20** Arise therefore, go down and go with them, DOUBTING nothing; for I have sent them."

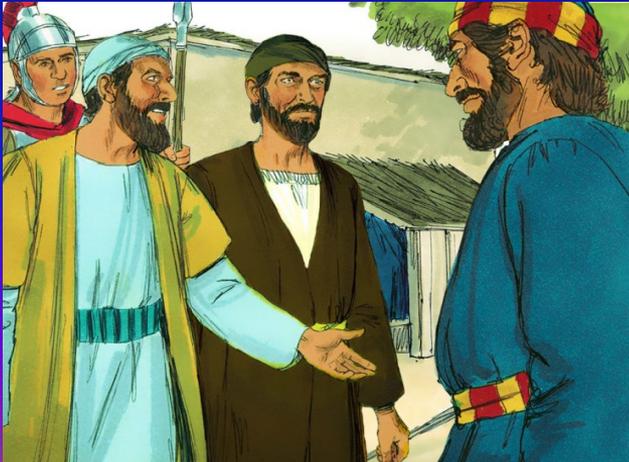
Don't Doubt, Don't Argue – just go with these Gentiles ...

The nature of Doubting God and/or His Word (the Bible) is in effect → Arguing with God



21 Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius, and said, “Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?”

22 And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to HEAR WORDS from you.” **23** Then HE INVITED THEM IN AND LODGED THEM. On the next day Peter went away with them, and SOME BRETHREN from Joppa accompanied him.

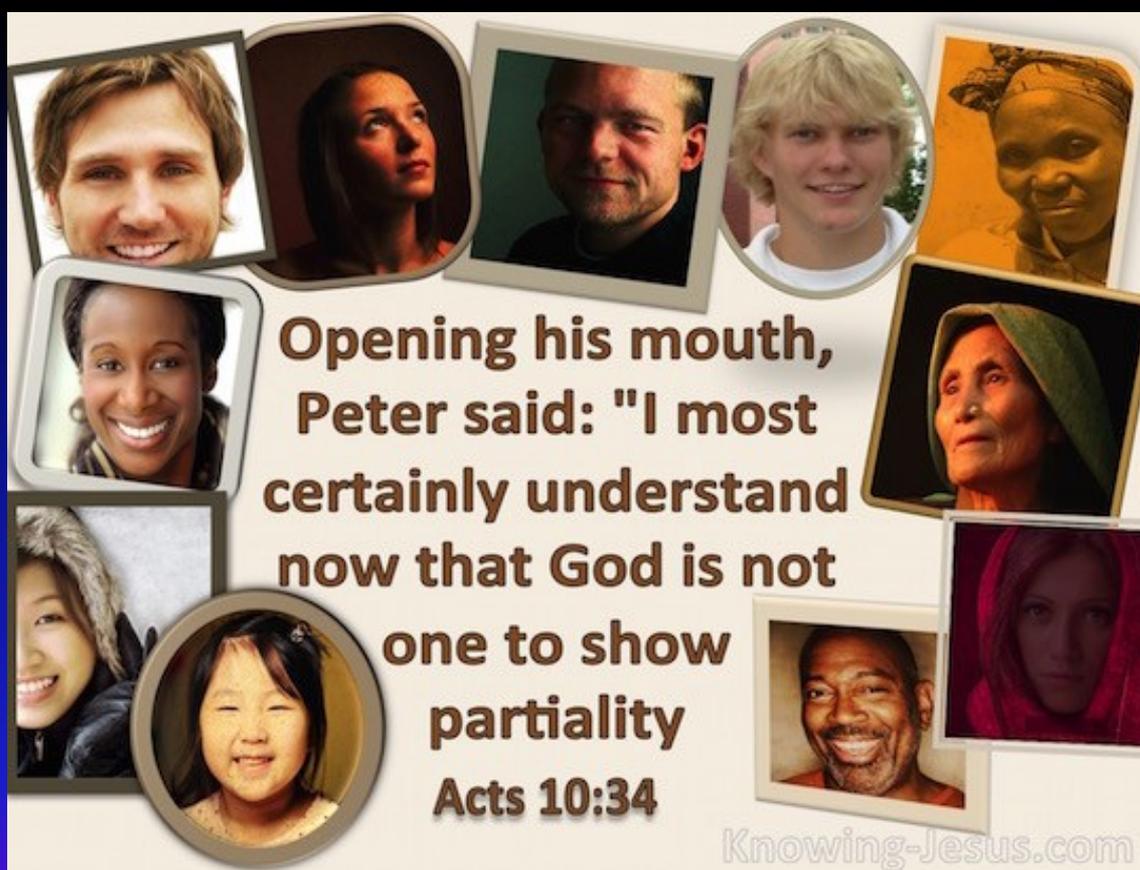


24 And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives and close friends. **25** As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. **26** But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I myself am also a man.” **27** And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together. **28** Then he said to them, “You know how UNLAWFUL it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. BUT God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean. **29** Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for WHAT REASON HAVE YOU SENT FOR ME?”



30 So Cornelius said, “Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, 31 and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.’ 33 So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God.”





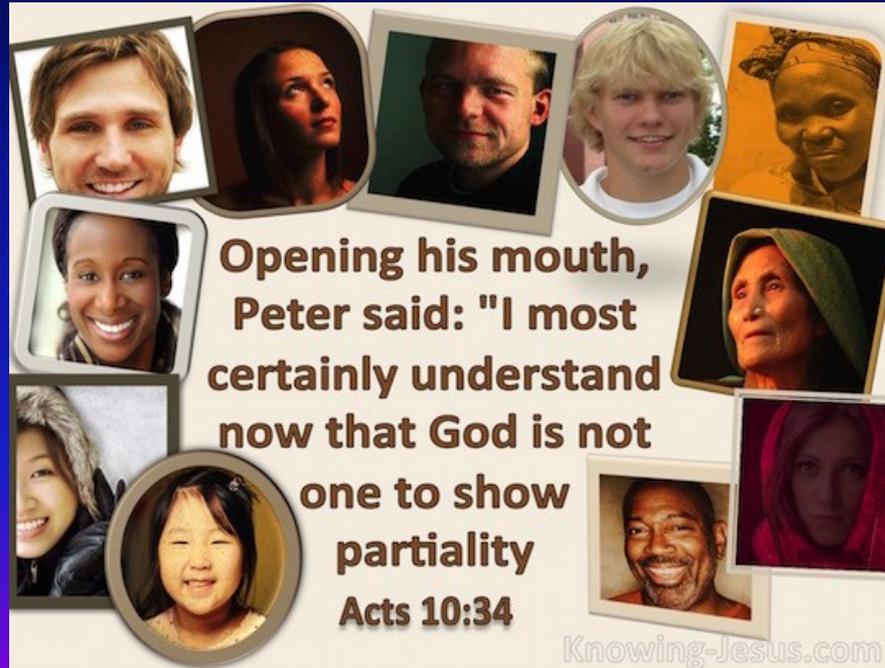
Opening his mouth,
Peter said: "I most
certainly understand
now that God is not
one to show
partiality
Acts 10:34

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PETER GET'S IT ... SALVATION in CHRIST, in the MESSIAH of ISRAEL is for Every People, Nation, Tongue, and Tribe on Planet earth, all the descendants of Adam and Eve, of Noah and his three sons ... Jesus died for all people – all men, women and children. Missions – Acts 1:8; Luke 24:44-49; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15

34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In TRUTH I perceive that God shows NO partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— 37 that WORD you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were OPPRESSED BY THE DEVIL, for God was with Him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. 40 Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.

42 And He (Jesus) commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His Name, whoever believes in Him will receive FORGIVENESS of sins.”



Missions → Acts 1:8; Luke 24:44-49; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15

**Acts 10:34-43 → Peter tells the whole truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ –
like a bullet point outline of what he talked about ... these are the major points ...**

These GOSPEL FOUNDATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL:

- 1. God exists and He is Sovereign over The Universe, the Earth, History and the Nations**
- 2. Israel is God's People**
- 3. Jesus is an Israeli and He is God's Messiah and the Savior of the World**
- 4. The Holy Spirit is God and Jesus was Anointed by God, the Holy Spirit:
Jesus did GOOD and Everything Jesus did was by the Holy Spirit**
- 5. There is a real Devil, and Lost Sinners are under his Tyrannical Oppressive Control**
- 6. Jesus was verifiably crucified and He did actually die (in Jerusalem)**
- 7. And then Jesus ROSE from the Dead, bodily**
- 8. Jesus was seen by multiple eyewitnesses validating and verifying the truth of the Resurrected Messiah, Jesus.**
- 9. Jesus is the Judge of the Living and the Dead – Peter spoke of God's Judgment of sin**
- 10. Forgiveness of sins is ONLY found by personally trusting in Jesus Christ, believing in Him (John 1:12-13)**

These TRUTHs are NECESSARY for Lost Sinners to be SAVED in Christ ...

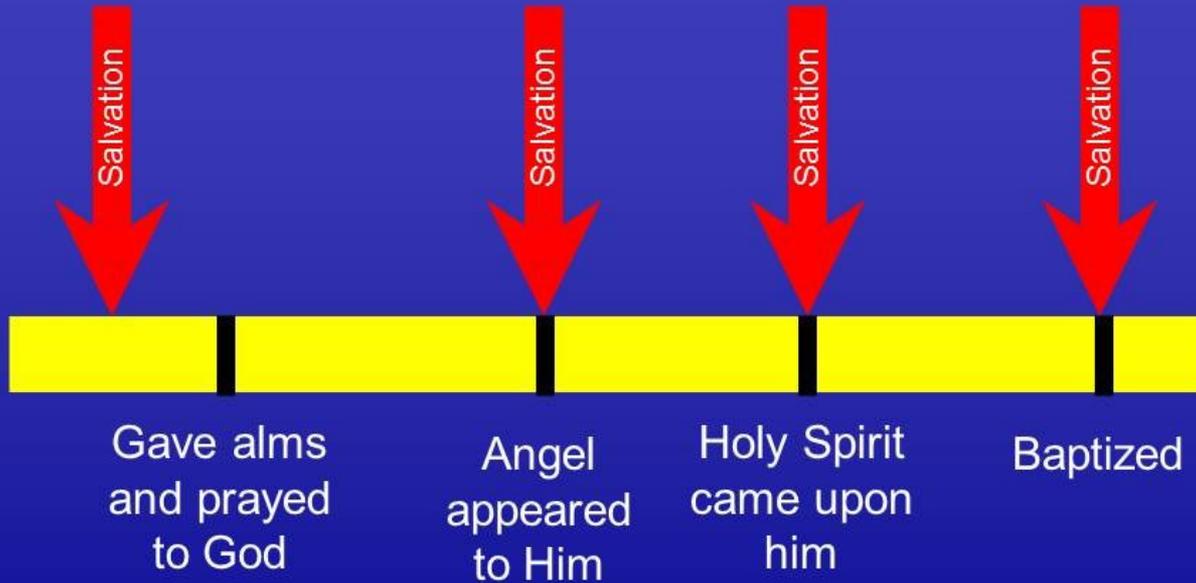
**Lost Sinners must HEAR or READ, Understand, BELIEVE, and Surrender to Christ
(ref.: Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 10:8-13; 1 Cor. 15:1-5)**

44 While Peter was still speaking **these words**, the Holy Spirit **FELL UPON** all those who heard the word. **45** **And** those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, **as many as came with Peter**, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles **also**. **46** **For they heard them** speak with tongues and magnify God.

Then Peter answered, **47** **“Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”** **48** **And he** commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

SO ... What JUST HAPPENED HERE? Hey, Peter didn't even get a chance to LAY HANDS on them ... and the Holy Spirit Fell Upon them ... What???

When Was Cornelius Saved?



While Peter was still speaking these words,

the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. (vs. 44)

→ They Received the Holy Spirit (see Acts 10:47) → SALVATION

This is the same as the terms:

- **Born of God (see John 1:12-13) → become a Child of God ...**
- **Born of the Spirit , Born from Above, Born Again (see John 3:1-8)**
- **Saved**
- **“baptized in/by/with the Holy Spirit” (see Acts 11:16-17 – see 1 Cor. 12:13)**
- **“repentance that leads to life” (see Acts 11:18)**
- **gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon (Titus 3:4-7; Acts 10:45;
Galatians 3:13-14; Eph. 1:13-14)**
- **“Promise of the Father” (Luke 24:49 – see Ezekiel 36:25-27)**

This event was NOT describing a 2nd Work of the Holy Spirit

(or the modern Charismatic/Pentecostal

“Baptism of the Holy Spirit” as they teach it ...)

→ It was SIMILAR to what PETER and the 120 Experienced in Acts 2

→ who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have (Acts 10:47)

**We see this as a Pattern ... when the GOSPEL First Penetrates and Enters a Brand New People Group – People, Nation, Tongue, and Tribe
→ A Brand New Ethnic, Cultural People Group – POWER & VALIDATION**

- 1. First Group of Israelis / Jews – Acts 2 – Day of Pentecost
It ONLY happened to the First Group – the 120 in the Upper Room**
- 2. Samaria – Acts 8 – Philip’s Ministry – Apostles’ helping
The First Group of Samaritan Believers**
- 3. Caesarea – Cornelius’ Household – First Group - Gentile God-Fearers
Only that First Group in that culture experienced this Powerful
encounter – just like the 120 Israelis did in Acts 2
(Peter said so in Acts 10:47; 11:17; 15:7-9)**
- 4. Ephesus – Acts 19:1-7 – Gentile Disciples of John the Baptist
(yes, a distinct people group) – The First Group of those type of
People or Culture who became believers in Christ.**

The DOORS of the GOSPEL SWUNG WIDE OPEN to the GENTILES from this POINT FORWARD ... and we are RECIPIENTS of God's Salvation to the Gentiles ... starting with Cornelius and his household coming to Christ

... → When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles REPENTANCE to LIFE." (Acts 11:18)

NOTES → <https://NLFJI.org/ACTS>

NEXT WEEK – PART 2 → Peter Tells of this to the Jewish Messianic Believers in Yeshua Messiah (Jesus Christ) back in Jerusalem.