THE MAN THAT OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING
Acts 10:1-48

Introduction:
A. Cornelius was contacted by an angel
   1) God had heard his prayers
   2) He needed to do something vs. 6

B. Every person ought to do something
   1) God has contacted us
   2) We will find the answer in His word

I. The Man That Ought to do Something vs. 1-2
A. Some facts about him vs. 1
   1) His name is Cornelius
   2) He is a centurion
   3) He is from Rome

B. His religious character vs. 2
   1) He was a devout man
   2) He feared God with all his house
   3) He gave much alms
   4) He prayed to God always

II. Cornelius was Contacted by the Lord vs. 3-6
A. He was visited by an angel vs. 3
   1) He saw a vision - horama = "a sight", "a spectacle"
   2) The angel spoke to him

B. He was frightened vs. 4
   1) "What is it Lord?"
   2) God knew he prayed
   3) "memorial" = eis = "with a view to" + muemosunon = a memorial or a monument, commemorative.
C. He needed someone to guide him  Vs. 5
   1) He was given a town  Vs. 5a
   2) He was given a name  Vs. 5b
   3) He was given an address  Vs. 6
   4) Why didn’t the angel tell him?

III. Cornelius obeyed the Lord  Vs. 7-8
   A. He called three men  Vs. 7
      1) Two household servants
      2) A devout soldier
      3) He had influenced his household!
   B. He told them why  Vs. 8
      1) He declared all things
      2) He sent them to Joppa

IV. The Lord Prepared a Messenger  Vs. 9-23
   A. Simon Peter’s Vision
      1) He went to pray  Vs. 9
      2) He became very hungry  Vs. 10a
      3) He fell into a "trance" = ekstasis = "a standing outside of one’s self",
         "removal"  Vs. 10b
      4) He was a great sheet  Vs. 11
      5) He was creatures  Vs. 12
      6) He was commanded to eat  Vs. 13
      7) He refused to eat  Vs. 14
      8) He was rebuked  Vs. 15
      9) Peter was unconvinced  Vs. 16
   B. Peter’s reaction to the vision
      1) He doubted  Vs. 17a
      2) "doubt" = diaireo = "to be entirely without resource", "to be in
         great perplexity"
      3) He was struggling against his religious instruction as a child and as a man
C. The arrival of the servants and soldier
   1) A distance of 30 miles
   2) They were bold Vs. 17b - 18

D. Peter needs more encouragement
   1) The spirit spoke to him Vs. 19
   2) "Arise, therefore" Vs. 20

V. The Report of the Three Men Vs. 21-23
   A. He waited for "them" Vs. 24
      1) Ten men have returned
      2) He had his kinsman and friends
      3) They would need to know also

   B. Cornelius worshipped him Vs. 25
      1) "fell down at his feet"
      2) He gave Peter great respect

C. Peter's reply and explanation
   1) "I am a man" Vs. 26
   2) We are both men
   3) There was a large gathering of Gentiles Vs. 27
   4) Peter felt intimidated Vs. 28a
   5) He was willing to do God's will Vs. 28b
   6) He came without quarreling Vs. 29a
   7) What do you want? Vs. 29b, "logos", "the exposition" or "account" (vs. 6)

VII. Cornelius Relates His Experience Vs. 30-33
   A. He was fasting and praying Vs. 30
      1) "Four days ago", "at the ninth hour"
      2) "a man stood before me"
B. God had heard his prayer  Vs. 31
   1) "Thy prayer is heard"
   2) "Thine alms are a remembrance"

C. God gave him instruction  Vs. 32
   1) "send therefore to Joppa"
   2) "call hither Simon"
   3) "he......shall speak unto thee"

D. Cornelius' response  Vs. 33
   1) "Immediately, therefore I sent for thee"
   2) "we are all here present"
   3) "to hear all things that are commanded thee of God"

VIII. The Message of God to Cornelius  Vs. 34-43
A. The gospel is for all men  Vs. 34
   1) "perceive" = katalambano = "to seize", "to comprehend"
   2) "respecter" = prosopoleptos = "without acceptance of persons", "to have favorites"
   3) "truth" = alethia = "essence", "the reality"

B. All may be accepted of Him  Vs. 35
   1) "accepted" = dektos = "to decide favourably", "elected", (involves a decision of the will) Gods
   2) There are two requisites, "fear Him", and "work righteousness".
      "Nation" = allophulos = another nation, "not a Jew"

C. A brief history of Jesus
   1) Cornelius knew the story  Vs. 36,37a
   2) It was a significant incident  Vs. 37
   3) He was appointed  Vs. 38 "chipso" = "to touch lightly with the hand"
   4) There were witnesses  Vs. 39a
   5) He was slain and hanged on a tree  Vs. 39b
   6) God raised Him up  Vs. 40
7) They saw Him, Post burial  Vs. 41
8) Jesus commanded them to preach  Vs. 42

D. The essence of all scripture  Vs. 43
   1) "To him give all the prophets witness"
   2) "that through his name whosoever believeth"
   3) "in Him shall receive remission of sin"
   4) "remission" = aphasis = "dismission", "discharge", "setting free",
      "remission of debt or punishment", "the forgiveness of sins on the
      part of God with a total excluding all idea of punishment"

IX. The First Gentile Church  Vs. 44-48

A. They were recipients of the Holy Spirit
   1) This was an unusual case  Vs. 44
   2) The gifts of the Spirit manifest
   3) This occurred before baptism

B. The Jewish christians were surprised  Vs. 45
   1) "astonished" = existemi = "to stand aside from", "go away from", "to
      be out of one's wits"
   2) "poured" = ekchuno = "to pour out"
   3) "the gift of the Holy Ghost"  Vs. 46
   4) The Jews saw the Gentiles exercise the gifts. They were not, "an
      arm of the church"
   5) These were, "observers"
   6) There is church authority, not "arms" and "daughter". There are no
      "mother" churches

C. The "doubts" of Peter were removed  Vs. 47
   1) "forbid" = koluo = "to cut off", "to weaken", "to hinder", "prevent",
      "restrain"
   2) "as well as we"
   3) Peter had authority to baptize
   4) Philip did not have an "arm" with him
5) A man sent out by a church has authority to witness professions, baptize and organize churches!

6) They wanted to be taught

7) He was told what he, "must do"

D. The Jew and Gentile  Rom. 2:9-16

1) God does not respect persons  Vs. 11

2) The way it was  Vs. 12  Romans 11:16-36

3) The state of Cornelius  Vs. 14-15

E. The warning of Jesus

1) Matthew 21:33-46