

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 alway

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, commenorative.

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" = diaporeo = "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) "respector" = 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 annointed 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