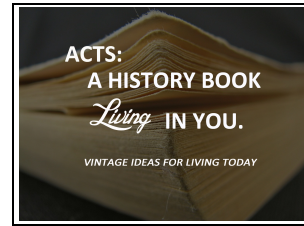


Notes:



Sierra Community Church April 6th, 2014
Dan Wilvers

Part 14: Acts Chapter 10 4 Undeniable Facts of Christian Conversion

Cornelius vision:

One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!”
4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked. The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. 5 Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

Peter’s Vision:

About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. 10 He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. 11 He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. 12 It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. 13 Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.” 14 “Surely not, Lord!” Peter replied. “I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.” 15 The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.” 16 This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven. While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three men are looking for you. 20 So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.”

The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the believers from Joppa went along. 24 The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

Peter visits Cornelius:

28 Peter told them, “You know it is against our laws for a Jewish man to enter a Gentile home like this or to associate with you. But God has shown me that I should no longer think of anyone as impure or unclean. 29 So I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. Now tell me why you sent for me.” vs. 28,29

Cornelius answer to Peter:

“... a man in dazzling clothes was standing in front of me. 31 He told me, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your gifts to the poor have been noticed by God! 32 Now send messengers to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. He is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner who lives near the seashore.’ So I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here, waiting before God to hear the message the Lord has given you.” vs. 30-33

I. Conversion to Christ is God’s _____

For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up. John 6:44

II. Conversion will challenge your sense of _____

‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your gifts to the poor have been noticed by God! 5 Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. vs. 4,5

The angel doesn’t say, “Because you’re so good, we just wanted you to know if you just keep on the way you’re going, we’re sure you’re going to make it to heaven.

The angel says, “Yes you’re pretty special and devoted to God *therefore, you need to be converted.*

There are two ways to put yourself in the place of God.

One way is to break all the moral rules,
and the other way is to keep all the moral rules.

**The first way makes you a self-serving;
the second way makes you self-righteous.**

III. Conversion is evidenced by the Spirit’s _____

Peter wasn’t planning to stop at this point, but the Holy Spirit suddenly interrupted and came upon all the people who were listening. 45-46 They began speaking in foreign languages (just as the Jewish disciples did on the Day of Pentecost), and their hearts overflowed in joyful praises to God. Peter’s friends from Joppa—all of them Jewish, all circumcised—were stunned to see that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on outsiders. vs. 44-46

Peter’s response:

“Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” vs.47

IV. Conversion is the power of the _____

“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came...vs.44

How do we know Jesus didn’t just die?

How do we know he died for us?

but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear, 41 not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. vs. 40-42

He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name.” vs. 43