

God Has Granted Repentance unto the Gentiles (Acts 11:1-18)

Acts 10:35-48 Peter preaches: Holy Spirit falls on Cornelius & his family

Peter's sermon shows the central mission of the Holy Spirit: glorify Christ

I. Circumcision Jews Criticize Peter's ministry to Cornelius (11:1-3)

Good news travels fast: brethren heard the Gentiles received word of God

Circumcision contended with Peter: went to uncircumcised, ate with them

Circumcision group caused problems in the church: Acts: 15:5; 21:15-22

Focus was not praise but concern that Peter "ate with the uncircumcised"

II. Peter Explains the Vision and the Actions He took (11:4-17)

Peter's explanation about the events is so carefully guarded almost wavering

Vs 4 "he set things out in order from the beginning"

Vv. 5-6 "I was praying, I had a vision" *not my idea*, God met me in prayer"

Vv 7-9 Peter spoke to the Lord, sees a vision three times "rise, kill eat"

Peter: "I have eaten *no unclean thing*" God: "I cleansed it - *not call common*"

Note Peter doesn't mention who he was staying with – Simon the tanner

Vv 14-15 not also Peter does not mention Cornelius "a certain man"

An angel had been standing in his house – so we can stand there

Vv 15-17 God sent his Spirit – I would not stand in the way of God's work

III. Silence & Praise to God for granting Gentiles Repentance (11:17,18)

"They became silent" – literally means they stopped their dispute

"God granted the Gentiles repentance": sovereign gift of new covenant