

In Antioch the Disciples were first called Christians (Acts 11:19-30)

Peter defends visiting Cornelius, eating with him, preaching the Gospel

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

Peter Explains the Vision and the Actions he took (11:4-17)

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

Focus shift: Christians scattered in persecution after Stephen's martyrdom

I. The Hand of God (11:19-24)

Hand of the Lord was upon the Christians...many believed the Lord (21)

"Hand of the Lord" clear picture God's mighty work in the Antioch church

God, sovereignly at work, at the same time the people evangelized (24)

II. Barnabas: The Encourager (11:25-26)

Barnabas, good ambassador sent by church to investigate work in Antioch

He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit (11:24)

He rejoiced at what he saw in Antioch: encouraged faithfulness (11:23)

Barnabas also led by the Lord to go and seek out & fetch Saul (11:25,26)

III. "Christians" (11:26)

Barnabas and Saul for a year met with the Antioch & taught them (11:26)

Term Christian: used on two other occasions in the NT (26:28; 1 Pet 4:16)

IV. Famine (11:27-30)

Agabus prophesied of a great famine throughout the world (11:28)

The church in Antioch sent relief to the church in Judea (11:29)