

ACTS: To the Ends of the Earth

Study 24: When Jesus is Exalted

READ Acts 10:34-11:18 and **LISTEN** to the [sermon](#) by Pastor Craig.

The divine revelation to Peter clarifies that God now grants salvation to all people irrespective of ethnic or religious background. For the first time the gospel is directly proclaimed to Gentiles through Peter. Like aftershocks from Pentecost, the Holy Spirit miraculously brings Gentile Cornelius and his family into the kingdom of God. After criticizing Peter for eating with Gentiles, the church in Jerusalem accept Gentile participation in the gospel with wonder and joy.

Big idea: Peter's Christ-centered message opened the gospel to Gentile seekers resulting in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Questions:

1. Peter said that "in every nation anyone who fears [God] and does what is right is acceptable to him" (v. 35). It could be interpreted that Peter is advocating salvation by works. Why is this not the case? What does he mean?

2. What aspects of Jesus' person and work did Peter "lift up" (John 12:32) before Cornelius and his household? Try to explain what each one means.
 - i.
 - ii.
 - iii.
 - iv.
 - v.
 - vi.

vii.

3. What was the outcome of Peter's preaching (v. 44)?

J. I. Packer calls the ministry of the Holy Spirit a "floodlight" ministry that points people to Jesus. How is this helpful when considering John 15:26 and 16:14?

How does Peter's Christ-focused message, coupled with the primary purpose of the Holy Spirit, encourage and challenge you as you share the gospel?

4. Why do you think this unique manifestation of the Spirit was very important on this occasion (10:44-48)?

5. What concern did the circumcision party have with Peter (11:2-3)?

How did Peter respond to this concern?

How did Peter's response change the church going forward?

STOP AND PRAY:

Praise: God for the ministry of the Holy Spirit to help us love and adore Jesus

Thank: God the convicting work of the Holy Spirit that caused you to be born again

Pray: for opportunities to welcome outsiders into your life and home this week