

Book of Acts**Session 14: Acts 10****Salvation is for all—part 1**

The Lord has always desired that all be saved, both Jew and Gentile. After Adam and Eve's sin, he promised that someone would come and crush Satan's head. This was a message of comfort for all people. But people rejected this salvation, and God sent a flood. Again the Lord showered the whole world with the good news of salvation. But once again, people rejected God's way, glorying in themselves and building the Tower of Babel. As time went on, God focused his undeserved love on one family, that of Abraham. Abraham's family was to hold on to the promise, be a light to the world as they experienced a rich outpouring of God's blessings, and be the nation from whom the Savior would come. To keep them as a light to the nations, God made a distinction between his people and the other nations. But when Jesus died for the sins of the world, and when he poured out his Spirit on Pentecost, salvation was now for all people. Though God had chosen the Jews for his salvation first, now salvation would come to the Gentiles. Jews and Gentiles would then be united in the New Testament church. This lesson God wanted Peter and the entire church to learn.

1. Read Acts 10:1-23. The first part of the account points to the object of the Lord's concern. Who was that?
2. Why didn't Cornelius convert to Judaism?
3. In verse 9, the Lord began to prepare Peter for his role in this object lesson. Compare Peter's vision of the animals let down in a sheet with Leviticus 11:1-8; 11:44-47. Explain why Peter had difficulty with God's command to kill and eat. How did the Lord deal with Peter's concerns?
4. Why did the Lord's revelation to Peter happen three times?
5. While Peter's vision focused on food, the immediate application centered on people. What happened "by coincidence" as Peter was thinking about the lesson God has just shown him?
6. How does this account help us understand the Old Testament laws?

Salvation is for all—part 2

7. What did Cornelius do when Peter entered his house?

8. Read Acts 10:24-33. What two miracles coincided to bring about this event?

9. Read Acts 10:34-43. Summarize the content of Peter's sermon.

10. Read Acts 10:44-48. After Peter preached the good news about Jesus, how did the Holy Spirit show yet again that God desired all to be saved, including Gentiles?

11. What are the "tongues" they spoke?

12. At what point did God pour out the Holy Spirit on Cornelius and his household? What does this teach us?