

## In Cornelius' House - Short

*Read (Acts 10:1-8)*

Let us this week consider more of the truth in the Word, since *Thy Word (Adonai's Word) is Truth (John 17:17)*. The *Ruach* will guide us into all truth: *"<sup>13</sup> But when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on His own; but whatever He hears, He will tell you. And He will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify Me, because He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> Everything that the Father has is Mine. For this reason I said the Ruach will take from what is Mine and declare it to you"* (John 16:13-15) Sometimes in serving the Almighty we do not realize that everything we do for Him is duly noted/recorded. You do not have to be in the *in-group* or part of *The Chosen People* or of the correct *ethnicity*, etc. When we *pray to God continually* and exercise true religion (Jas. 1:27) by caring for others, we can be sure our actions will come as a memorial before *Adonai*. Do you think that Cornelius knew that any of what he was doing for God would *change the world* or even that the impact of *his lifestyle* would reverberate throughout eternity? Not at all! But it did! Even in *staring at the angel of God in terror* his response was *Hineni* ("What is it Lord?") How many of us pray imagining that our prayer can possibly change the universe? Are we also lubricating and enabling our prayers with *generous tzedakah*? Our prayers and testimony before *Adonai* have the *very same potential*. Do you believe it? Meanwhile in another city, Peter is also praying...

*Read (Acts 10:9-23)*

Peter goes to pray at noon on the rooftop of the house and while praying, *he became very hungry and wanted to eat*. While in a trance *a voice* came to him and said *"Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."* Peter is a Jewish man and observes *kashrut* (as did *Yeshua* and the rest of the disciples). Not every animal, reptile or bird is food according to the Almighty. So naturally this *kashrut* observant apostle replies: *"Certainly not, Lord! For never have I eaten anything unholy or unclean (unkosher)."* So the voice is identified as *the Lord's voice*. The Lord's voice replies: *"What God has made clean, you must not consider unholy."* The text states that this happens three times in a row and the vision ends with *the sheet was immediately taken up to heaven*. Meanwhile *Peter was mulling over the vision*, and *the Ruach said to him*, *"Look here, three men are looking for you. <sup>20</sup> But get up, go downstairs, and go with them without hesitating, because I Myself have sent them."* The voice of the Lord and the voice of the *Ruach* are different. Peter immediately obeys the *Ruach* and in doing so immediately discerns the meaning of the vision as detailed by his actions. This was no ordinary event and we see Peter immediately cooperate with the *Ruach* – you see Peter understood that the *Ruach* came to lead and guide (Ps. 31:4, John 16:13) us into all truth! He will tell us!

Peter is now acting based on the understood vision (which was not about food, but about people) and he some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him (Jaffa at the outskirts of Tel Aviv is located about 30 miles (48 km) south of Caesarea on the Mediterranean):

*Read (Acts 10:24-43)*

Peter begins to preach the Good News (the Gospel) of *Yeshua*: *that everyone who puts his trust in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name*. *Yeshua* is the *One ordained by God as Judge of the living and the dead*. *<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about Him*. The *Ruach* then falls on everyone hearing the message of the Gospel:

*Read (Acts 10:44-48)*

There is so much to talk about in these Scripture verses, but let us look at the next chapter. Here Peter leaves no doubt about the nature of the vision. It was never about eating not kosher food but about the welcoming of the Gentiles into the Kingdom of God:

*Read (Acts 11:1-18)*

So I ask you, was the vision about eating non-kosher animals (what God does not consider food, e.g., pork,

shellfish) or about the earth shattering momentous inclusion of the Gentiles into the Kingdom with all rights and emoluments thereunto appertaining? Do you think Peter ate non-kosher food from that point on? (Check it out in NT Scriptures). What was the response from the Jewish Believers in Jerusalem? Did they begin to eat any of this non-kosher stuff? The answer is a resounding NO THEY DID NOT. Then neither should we.

But leaving the matter of *kashrut* aside, what is the real message in not one but almost two chapters in the Book of Acts with regard to the Gentiles and the Kingdom? In BibleHub.com we see:

30 AD	The Ascension	Acts 1
30 AD	Matthias Chosen by Lot	Acts 1:12
30 AD	The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost	Acts 2
30 AD	Peter Heals and Preaches	Acts 3
30 AD	Peter and John Arrested and Released	Acts 4
30 AD	Believers Share All	Acts 4:32
30 AD	Deaths of Ananias and Sapphira	Acts 5
30 AD	Apostles Preach and Heal	Acts 5:11
31 AD	Stephen's Speech, Stoning and Death	Acts 6, 7
31 AD	Saul Persecutes the Church	Acts 8
31 AD	Philip in Samaria	Acts 8:3
31 AD	Simon the Sorcerer	Acts 8:9
31 AD	Philip and the Ethiopian	Acts 8:26
34 AD	Saul's Conversion	Acts 9
37 AD	Peter Preaches to the Gentiles	Acts 10, 11

Seven years after the outpouring of the *Ruach* in Acts 2, the *Ruach* is still being outpoured at Cornelius' House. How much of the Spirit? All of it! Was it any different than for the apostles? NO. It has been seven days (not seven years) since we experienced this *Special Shavuot* on May 31, 2020. Prophetically, this is the start of a new *Era*, the *New Normal*. We at *Kol Simcha* are looking for a fresh and relevant *Immersion of the Holy Spirit* as prophesied in Acts 1 because, like the disciples in Acts 1, we are also desirous of the very same mantle, anointing, power, and ultimately results. The video shared on the Shavuot Day Service talked about raining droplets of fire – a gentle but dousing rain. We have begun to experience that rain fire. But I declare that it is not over! We've only just begun to live (like the Carpenter's famous song) and much, much more is in store for us – if we want it, that is. Do you want it? Am I alone in this quest? Can you raise your hands to the Holy Spirit and signify to Him that you are among those who do want all He has for *Kol Simcha*? Can we worship the Lord that He might grant us our wish right here and now? 🎵 *You are way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper...* 🎵