

A CERTAIN MAN NAMED CORNELIUS ACTS 10:1-18

Text:

Introduction:

1. A READY SINNER (VS. 1-8)

Acts 10:1-8

¹There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*, ²A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. ³He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. ⁴And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. ⁵And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter: ⁶He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do. ⁷And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually; ⁸And when he had declared all *these* things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

A. Responsible – A centurion

- He was in charge over a company of 100 soldiers

- He no doubt was tough-minded, iron disciplined, well trained, brave-hearted.

He had to keep order and discipline among his soldiers.

B. Religious – A devout man

- He feared God with his entire house
- Gave much alms to the people
- Prayed to God always

C. Restless

There was restlessness in his soul

He desired to know the way of salvation

Acts 10:3-6

³ He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. ⁴ And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. ⁵ And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter: ⁶ He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

Acts 11:13-14

¹³ And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; ¹⁴ Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.

D. Responsive (vs. 5-8)

Acts 10:5-8

⁵ And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter: ⁶ He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do. ⁷ And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually; ⁸ And when he had declared all *these* things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

- He obeyed the instruction of the Lord

2. A RELUCTANT SERVANT (VS. 9-18)

Acts 10:9-18

⁹ On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: ¹⁰ And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, ¹¹ And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: ¹² Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. ¹³ And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. ¹⁴ But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. ¹⁵ And the voice *spake* unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common. ¹⁶ This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up

again into heaven. ¹⁷ Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, ¹⁸ And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

A. His Preparation (vs. 9-13)

B. His Perception (vs. 14)

C. His Perplexity (vs. 17)