

**Acts 10:1-48**

10:1 – Caesarea	(proper noun)	a city; see map
v1 – centurion	(noun)	a soldier in the Roman army who was in charge of one hundred soldiers
v1 – regiment	(noun)	a large unit within an army
v2 – devout	(adjective)	giving much time and attention to prayer and worship of God
v2 – God-fearing	(adjective)	a term applied to non-Jews who followed the God of Israel but had not been circumcised
v3 – vision	(noun)	an experience of seeing something that others do not see
v3 – distinctly	(adverb)	clearly
v4 – stared	(verb)	looked at something for a long time
v4 – memorial offering		a type of offering given to God in the Old Testament
v6 – tanner	(noun)	someone who makes leather from animal skins
v7 – attendants	(noun)	people whose job it is to serve the needs of someone
v10 – trance	(noun)	a state of mind when someone seems to be asleep but in which they can see and hear things
v11 – heaven	(noun)	the sky
v11 – sheet	(noun)	a large rectangular piece of cloth
v12 – contained	(verb)	had things inside it
v12 – reptiles	(noun)	animals that are cold-blooded and have skins that are covered with scales
v14 – surely	(adverb)	definitely
v14 – impure	(adjective)	not good quality because there are other substances mixed with it
v14 – unclean	(adjective)	ceremonially unclean – that is, something in Jewish religion that makes you unacceptable to God for a time if you come into contact with it
v17 – wondering	(verb)	thinking about something in a surprised way
v20 – hesitate	(verb)	do not act for a short time because you are uncertain about the action
v22 – righteous	(adjective)	doing what is right in God’s eyes
v22 – holy	(adjective)	set apart for God’s purpose
v25 – reverence	(noun)	respect
v28 – aware	(adjective)	know about something
v28 – Jew	(proper noun)	someone from the nation of Israel

v28 – associate with (verb)	spend time with
v28 – Gentile (proper noun)	someone who is not from the nation of Israel
v29 – objection (noun)	disagreement
v30 – shining (adjective)	giving out or reflecting light
v33 – commanded (verb)	told someone they must do something
v34 – favouritism (noun)	unfairly giving better treatment to one person or group at the expense of another
v36 – Lord (title)	master
v37 – Judea (proper noun)	a region; see map
v37 – baptism (noun)	the action of washing someone with water to symbolise that their sins are forgiven by God
v38 – anointed (verb)	(literally) poured oil on someone’s head to signal that they are set aside for God’s purpose
v38 – Nazareth (proper noun)	a town; see map
v38 – Holy Spirit (proper noun)	the third person of the Trinity. Christians believe in one God who is three Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
v38 – the devil (noun)	Satan; the enemy of God and his people
v39 – witnesses (noun)	people who saw an event and subsequently tell others about it
v39 – Jerusalem (proper noun)	a city; the capital of Israel; see map
v42 – preach (verb)	publicly speak to a group of people about God
v42 – testify (verb)	speak about something that you have witnessed
v42 – appointed (verb)	formally chose someone for an official position
v43 – prophets (noun)	people who received God’s message and communicated it to God’s people
v43 – sins (noun)	rebellion against God
v45 – circumcised believers	Jewish believers; followers of Jesus who are Jews  (In the Old Testament, Jews were instructed to practice circumcision – removing the foreskin from a male – as a sign that they are his people.)
v45 – astonished (adjective)	very surprised
v46 – ‘speaking in tongues’	speaking in other languages (usually languages that they have not learned before)

**Acts 10:1-48 (New International Reader's Version)**

A man named Cornelius lived in Caesarea. He was a Roman commander in the Italian Regiment.<sup>2</sup> Cornelius and all his family were faithful and worshiped God. He gave freely to people who were in need. He prayed to God regularly.<sup>3</sup> One day about three o'clock in the afternoon he had a vision. He saw clearly an angel of God. The angel came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

<sup>4</sup> Cornelius was afraid. He stared at the angel. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.

The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to poor people are like an offering to God. So he has remembered you."<sup>5</sup> Now send men to Joppa. Have them bring back a man named Simon. He is also called Peter.<sup>6</sup> He is staying with another Simon, a man who works with leather. His house is by the sea."

<sup>7</sup> The angel who spoke to him left. Then Cornelius called two of his servants. He also called a godly soldier who was one of his attendants.<sup>8</sup> He told them everything that had happened. Then he sent them to Joppa.

<sup>9</sup> It was about noon the next day. The men were on their journey and were approaching the city. Peter went up on the roof to pray.<sup>10</sup> He became hungry. He wanted something to eat. While the meal was being prepared, Peter had a vision.<sup>11</sup> He saw heaven open up. There he saw something that looked like a large sheet. It was being let down to earth by its four corners.<sup>12</sup> It had all kinds of four-footed animals in it. It also had reptiles and birds in it.<sup>13</sup> Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

<sup>14</sup> "No, Lord! I will not!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything that is not pure and 'clean.' "

<sup>15</sup> The voice spoke to him a second time. It said, "Do not say anything is not pure that God has made 'clean.' "

<sup>16</sup> This happened three times. Right away the sheet was taken back up to heaven.

<sup>17</sup> Peter was wondering what the vision meant. At that very moment the men sent by Cornelius found Simon's house. They stopped at the gate<sup>18</sup> and called out. They asked if Simon Peter was staying there.

<sup>19</sup> Peter was still thinking about the vision. The Holy Spirit spoke to him. "Simon," he said, "three men are looking for you."<sup>20</sup> Get up and go downstairs. Don't let anything keep you from going with them. I have sent them."

<sup>21</sup> Peter went down and spoke to the men. "I'm the one you're looking for," he said. "Why have you come?"

<sup>22</sup> The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius, the Roman commander. He is a good man who worships God. All the Jewish people respect him. A holy angel told him to invite you to his house. Then Cornelius can hear what you have to say."<sup>23</sup> Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests.

The next day Peter went with the three men. Some of the believers from Joppa went along.<sup>24</sup> The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them. He had called together his relatives and close friends.<sup>25</sup> When Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him. As a sign of respect, he fell at Peter's feet.<sup>26</sup> But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said. "I am only a man myself."

<sup>27</sup> As he was talking with Cornelius, Peter went inside. There he found a large group of people.<sup>28</sup> He said to them, "You know that it is against our law for a Jew to enter a Gentile home. A Jew shouldn't have any close contact with a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not say anyone is not pure and 'clean.'<sup>29</sup> So when you sent for me, I came without asking any questions. May I ask why you sent for me?"

<sup>30</sup> Cornelius answered, "Three days ago at this very hour I was in my house praying. It was three o'clock in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood in front of me.<sup>31</sup> He said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer. He has remembered your gifts to poor people.<sup>32</sup> Send someone to Joppa to get Simon Peter. He is a guest in the home of another Simon, who works with leather. He lives by the sea.'<sup>33</sup> So I sent for you right away. It was good of you to come. Now we are all here. And God is here with us. We are ready to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us."

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak. "I now realize how true it is that God treats everyone the same," he said.<sup>35</sup> "He accepts people from every nation. He accepts anyone who has respect for him and does what is right.<sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel. It is the good news of peace through Jesus Christ. He is Lord of all.<sup>37</sup> You know what has happened all through the area of Judea. It started in Galilee after John preached about baptism.<sup>38</sup> You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Jesus went around doing good. He healed all who were under the devil's power. God was with him.

<sup>39</sup> "We are witnesses of everything he did in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by nailing him to a cross.<sup>40</sup> But on the third day God raised him from the dead. God allowed Jesus to be seen.<sup>41</sup> But he wasn't seen by all the people. He was seen only by us. We are witnesses whom God had already chosen. We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people. He told us to tell people that he is the one appointed by God to judge the living and the dead.<sup>43</sup> All the prophets tell about him. They say that all who believe in him have their sins forgiven through his name."

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.<sup>45</sup> Some Jewish believers had come with Peter. They were amazed because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.<sup>46</sup> They heard them speaking in languages they had not known before. They also heard them praising God.

Then Peter said,<sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can keep these people from being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."<sup>48</sup> So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

**PALESTINE IN THE TIME OF JESUS**

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