

The Life of the Apostle Peter
Study # 38 C
Ministry in Sharon: Part III
Joppa and Caesarea
Rise and Go: Peter's Visit from Gentiles
(Acts 10:17-23A)

Review: For more details see study 36 B.

- I. **The Visions (1-16)**
 - A. **Of Cornelius (1-8)**
 - 1. **His Reputation, (1-2)**
 - 2. **His Revelation (3-6)**
 - 3. **His Request (7-8; Joshua 1:8)**
 - B. **Of Peter (9-16)**
 - 1. **The Circumstances of His Vision (9-10)**
 - 2. **The Content of His Vision (11-13)**
 - 3. **The Confrontation of His Vision (14-16)**

II. The Visitors (17-23a)

A. The Introspection of Peter (17,19)

1. He is Puzzled

(17; Lk. 9:7; 24:4; Mark 7:14–23; Rom. 14:1–3; Col. 2:16–17; 1 Tim. 4:1–5)

2. He is Pondering (19)

B. The Inquiry for Peter (17-18)

1. The Chronology of the Visitors (17A)

a. The Human Timing

b. The Heavenly Timing

2. The Caution of the Visitors (17B)

3. The Calling by the Visitors (18)

C. The Introduction to Peter (19-21)

1. By The Spirit

(19-20; Rom. 8:14; Acts 8:29; 13:2; 13:4; 16:6-7; 20:22-23)

“One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is GUIDANCE.”

a. The Revelation of the Spirit (19)

b. The Requirements of the Spirit (20)

2. By The Servants

D. The Information for Peter (22)

1. They Recount Cornelius' Virtues (22A)

2. They Recount Cornelius' Vision (22B)

E. The Invitation of Peter (23A; Acts 15:5)

CONCLUSION

1. Sensitivity to the Spirit

2. Submission to the Spirit (Mt. 13:16; Ps. 25:5; 27:11; 143:10)

Enemies United in Christ

That is typical of the work of Christ. A missionary tells how once he officiated at a communion service in Africa. Beside him as an elder sat an old chief of the Ngoni called Manly-heart. The old chief could remember the days when the young warriors of the Ngoni had left behind them a trail of burned and devastated towns and come home with their spears red with blood and with the women of their enemies as booty. And what were the tribes which in those days they had ravaged? They were the Senga and the Tumbuka. And who were sitting at that communion service now? Ngoni, Senga and Tumbuka were sitting side by side, their enmities forgotten in the love of Jesus Christ. In the first days it was characteristic of Christianity that it broke the barriers down; and it can still do that when given the chance. *Daily Study Bible.*

Α Ω (Word Studies)

doubted - (vs. 17) from three Greek words which together mean “thoroughly at a loss as to which road to take.” *Word Pictures in the New Testament.*

should mean - (vs. 17). This verb is in the optative mood in Greek. This is the way that Greek expresses a possibility that is extremely remote. The resultant idea is something like this – “What on earth could this possible be?”

a just man - (vs. 22) Luke does not mean “just” in the Pauline sense of having the righteousness of Christ imparted to the believer. Rather, he refers to the fact that, as a “God fearer,” Cornelius made every effort to observe the requirements of the law.