

Acts 10:17 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. 19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them. 21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?

<u>22</u> And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

23 Then called he them in, and lodged *them*. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

#### I. THE ORGANIZATION

A. The Person, 1:1-2 B. The Proofs, 1:3 C. The Pastor, 1:4a D. The Preparation, 1:4b E. The Power, 1:5 F. The Predicament, 1:6-7 G. The Performance, 1:8 **II. THE OPERATION** A. Watching the Ascension of the Savior, 1:9-11 B. Waiting for Empowering of the Spirit, 1:12-26 **III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS – SIMON,** 2:1-5:42

> A. Testimony, 2:1-47 B. Triumph, 3:1-4:37 C. Treachery, 5:1-42

IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS - STEPHEN, 6:1-12:25 A. New Voices, 6:1-8:40 1. The First Ministers, 6:1-7 2. The First Martyr, 6:8-7:60 3. The First Missionary, 8:1-40 B. New Victories, 9:1-12:25 1. A Messenger for the Gentiles is Saved, 9:1-31 a. The Miracle of Saul's Conversion, 9:1-3a b. The Manner of Saul's Conversion, 9:3b-9 c. The Meaning of Saul's Conversion, 9:10-16 d. The Measure of Saul's Conversion, 9:17-31 (1) A New Family, 9:17-19 (2) A New Faith, 9:20-22 (3) A New Fight, 9:23-25 (4) A New Fellowship, 9:26-29 (5) A New Future, 9:30-31 2. A Man of the Gentiles is Saved, 9:32-11:18 a. Peter's Movements, 9:32 b. Peter's Miracles, 9:33-43 c. Peter's Ministry, 10:1-11:18

(1) How This Ministry was Commanded 10:1-23

 (a) The Heavenly Visitor Who Aroused Cornelius, 10:1-8
 i. The Actions of Cornelius Toward God, 10:1-2
 ii. The Acceptance of Cornelius by God, 10:3-4
 iii. The Advice to Cornelius from God, 10:5-8

How Precisely it was Heralded, 10:5-6

How Promptly it was Heeded, 10:7-8

(b) The Heavenly Vision That Arrested Peter, 10:9-23 i. How Peter was Prepared by God, 10:9-16

- A Very Human Kind of Dichotomy, 10:9-10
- A Very Hebrew Kind of Difficulty, 10:11-16
  - The Command, 10:11-13
  - The Conflict, 10:14-15
  - The Confirmation, 10:16

## ii. How Peter was Prompted by God, 10:17-23

### • His Doubts, 10:17-20

• His Secret Perplexity, 10:17a "Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean..."

Acts 10:17 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,

# Original Word: διαπορέω Transliteration: diaporeó Definition: I am in trouble, doubt, difficulty; I am at a loss.

*diaporéō* (from *diá* "thoroughly," which intensifies *aporéō*, "*no way* out") – properly, *totally perplexed* because having no solution ("way out"). *diaporéō* ("deeply perplexed") refers to "one who goes *through* the whole list of possible ways, and finds no way out. Hence, '*to be in perplexity*'' (*WS*, 174). http://biblehub.com/greek/1280.htm

- We must walk by faith, in obedience to the Lord's will, even when we are not 100% sure of all that it means, or simply see no other way out of a challenging situation.
- His Sudden Perception, 10:17b-20

Acts 10:17 "...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. 19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting

nothing: for I have sent them."

Acts 10:17 "...behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, <u>18</u> And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.  God is working inside and outside of Peter's control, simultaneously.

Acts 10:19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them."

• The Holy Spirit gave Peter the clarity of what was needed at the moment.

Acts 10:19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them."

- Sometimes, a believer must "go with what you've got" "doubting nothing."
- His Decision, 10:21-23
  - His Courtesy, 10:21-23a

Acts 10:21 "Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what *is* the cause wherefore ye are come? <u>22</u> And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee. <u>23</u> Then called he them in, and lodged *them*..." Acts 15:7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men *and* brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;

<u>9</u> And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

<u>10</u> Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

<u>11</u> But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

<u>12</u> Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

<u>13</u> And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

<u>14</u> Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

Eph. 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

<u>17</u> And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

<u>18</u> For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

<u>19</u> Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
<u>20</u> And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;
<u>21</u> In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:
<u>22</u> In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

 His Caution, 10:23b "...And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him." <u>Acts 11:12</u> And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

Acts 11:13 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.

# Conclusion

Eph. 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: