

## Missionaries – Part 9

### Peter and the Gentiles

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on Missionaries. Our topic today: Peter and the Gentiles.

Scripture Theme Song: “You are a Chosen Generation” (1 Peter 2:9)

- 1) Peter and the other apostles at Pentecost
  - a) Acts 2:1-4 – how many received the baptism of the Holy Spirit? (see Acts 1:15)
  - b) Acts 2:5-8 – what gift of the Holy Spirit was given to these disciples?
  - c) Reactions of those present
    - i) Acts 2:12 - positive
    - ii) Acts 2:13 - negative
    - iii) Acts 2:14-24 – Peter’s testimony
      - (1) v.14-21 – prophecy fulfilled
      - (2) v. 22-24 – the truth about Jesus
  - d) Appeal for action and response
    - i) Acts 2:37-41
  - e) What lessons can we learn from this story about the role of the Holy Spirit in fulfilling our mission?
    - i) He will give us the gifts that are needed.
    - ii) His enabling presence is absolutely essential.
- 2) The Conversion of Cornelius, a Roman centurion
  - a) Acts 10:1-8 (See also Acts 11:13-14)
    - i) What important lessons about missions can we learn from the first part of this story?
  - b) Peter’s vision – Acts 10:9-16
    - i) Is God saying that all food is clean to eat?
    - ii) Acts 10:28
  - c) Peter’s testimony to Cornelius and his family
    - i) Acts 10:34-43
  - d) Supernatural confirmation of God’s approval
    - i) Acts 10:44-48
    - ii) For whose benefit was this supernatural sign given?
  - e) If Cornelius was already a worshipper of the true God why was it necessary for a missionary to share with him the truth about Jesus? (Romans 2:14-16; Acts 10:25)
  - f) An angel appeared to Cornelius but the angel didn’t preach the Gospel to him. God used Peter to do that. Why?
- 3) The impact of Cornelius’ conversion
  - a) Acts 11:18 – they glorified God
  - b) Acts 15:6-12 – Peter’s report to the council in Jerusalem
  - c) Acts 15:13-21 – the response of James, brother of Jesus, who was the leader of the church in Jerusalem
  - d) Acts 15:22-29 – the Jerusalem decree
  - e) Acts 15:30-35 – mission work continues
  - f) What lesson can we learn from the Jerusalem Council that would help our church when dealing with controversial issues today?