



Gospel of Grace  
FELLOWSHIP

**A Divinely Arranged  
Encounter**

**Acts 10:17-33**

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**God's Timely Answer**

**Acts 10:17-18 (NASB)**  
Now while Peter was greatly perplexed in mind as to what the vision which he had seen might be, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius, having asked directions for Simon's house, appeared at the gate; and calling out, they were asking whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was staying there.

- "perplexed" in Luke/Acts is a response to something supernatural: Luke 9:7; 24:4; Acts 2:12; 5:24
- God furthers His purpose for the church

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**The Spirit Speaks to Peter**

**Acts 10:19-21 (NASB)**  
While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself." Peter went down to the men and said, "Behold, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?"

- God sent Gentiles to Peter
- "misgivings" (part. of *diakrino\_*) may have a double nuance: "hesitation" or "making distinction"

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### Peter Fellowships With Gentiles

**Acts 10:22-23 (NASB)**

They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was divinely directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you." So he invited them in and gave them lodging. And on the next day he got up and went away with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

- In Luke 7:6, 7 a centurion said he was unworthy to fellowship with Jesus

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### Cornelius Shows Too Much Honor

**Acts 10:24-26 (NASB)**

On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am just a man."

- There was a large group waiting who will hear what Peter will say
- "Worshipped" had a range of meaning in Greek
- In Acts 14:11-15 Paul encountered a wrong response

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### Peter's Profound Lesson

**Acts 10:27-29 (NASB)**

As he talked with him, he entered and found many people assembled. And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean. That is why I came without even raising any objection when I was sent for. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me."

- Peter learned that the lesson was about more than food

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### Peter Hears Cornelius' Story

**Acts 10:30-31 (NASB)**

Cornelius said, "Four days ago to this hour, I was praying in my house during the ninth hour; and behold, a man stood before me in shining garments, and he said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God.'"

- The angel was seen objectively
- God continues to bring His saving purpose to pass

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### Peter Hears Cornelius' Story

**Acts 10:32-33 (NASB)**

"Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who is also called Peter, to come to you; he is staying at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.' So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord."

- "All" is emphasized by repetition
- As readers we expect that what follows will be from God as Cornelius and company do

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