

## Wells – Pt. 4

### Acts 10

1At that time there was a Roman military officer, Cornelius, who was in charge of one hundred men stationed in Caesarea. He was the captain of the Italian regiment, 2a devout man of extraordinary character who worshiped God and prayed regularly, together with all his family. He also had a heart for the poor and gave generously to help them.

3One afternoon about three o'clock, he had an open vision and saw the angel of God appear right in front of him, calling out his name, "Cornelius!"

4Startled, he was overcome with fear by the sight of the angel. He asked, "What do you want, Lord?"

The angel said, "All of your prayers and your generosity to the poor have ascended before God as an eternal offering. 5Now, send some men to Joppa at once. Have them find a man named Simon the Rock, 6who is staying as a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea."

7After the angel left, Cornelius called for two of his servants and a trusted, godly soldier who was his personal attaché. 8He explained to them everything that had just happened and sent them off to Joppa.

### Peter's Trance

9The next day around noon, as Cornelius' men were approaching Joppa, Peter went up to the flat roof of the house to pray. **10 He was hungry and wanted to eat, but while lunch was being prepared he fell into a trance and entered into another realm.** 11As the heavenly realm opened up, he saw something resembling a large linen tablecloth that descended from above, being let down to the earth by its four corners. 12As it floated down he saw that it held many kinds of four-footed animals, reptiles, and wild birds.

13A voice said to him, "Peter, go and prepare them to be eaten."

14Peter replied, **"There's no way I could do that, Lord, for I've never eaten anything forbidden or impure according to our Jewish laws."**

15The voice spoke again. **"Nothing is unclean if God declares it to be clean."**

16The vision was repeated three times. Then suddenly the linen sheet was snatched back up into heaven.

17Peter was so stunned by the vision that he couldn't stop wondering about what all it meant. Meanwhile, Cornelius' men had learned where Peter was staying and at that same moment were standing outside the gate.

18They called out to those in the house, "Is this where Simon, the Rock, is staying?"

19-20As Peter was in deep thought, trying to interpret the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Go downstairs now, for three men are looking for you. Don't hesitate to go with them, because I have sent them."

21Peter went downstairs to the men and said, "I believe I'm the one you're looking for. What brings you here?"

22They answered, "We serve Cornelius, a Roman military captain, who sent us to find you. He is a devout man of the highest integrity who worships God and is respected throughout the Jewish community. He was divinely instructed through the appearance of an angel to summon you to his home and to listen to the message that you would bring him."

23Peter invited them to stay for the night as his guests. The next morning they departed, accompanied by some of the believers from Joppa.

24The next day they arrived in Caesarea, where Cornelius was waiting anxiously for them and had gathered together all of his relatives and close friends. 25The moment Peter walked in the door, Cornelius fell at his feet to worship him. 26But Peter pulled him to his feet and said, "Stand up, for I'm only a man and no different from you."

27They talked together and then went inside, where Peter found a large gathering *waiting to hear his words*.

28Peter said to them, "You all know that it is against the Jewish laws for me to associate with or even visit the home of one who is not a Jew. Yet God has shown me that I should never view anyone as inferior or ritually unclean. 29So when you sent for me, I came without objection. Now, may I ask why you sent for me?"

30Cornelius replied, "Four days ago I was fasting and praying here in my home at this very hour, three o'clock in the afternoon, when a man in glistening clothing suddenly appeared in front of my eyes. 31He said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayers. Your generosity to the poor has been recorded and remembered in God's presence. 32However, you must send for a man named Simon, the Rock, who is staying in Joppa as a guest of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' 33So I immediately sent my men to bring you here—and you were kind enough to

come. And now, here we are, all of us in God's presence, anxious to hear the message that God has put into your heart to share with us."

34Peter said, "Now I know for certain that God doesn't show favoritism with people *but treats everyone on the same basis*. 35It makes no difference what race of people one belongs to. If they show deep reverence for God, and are committed to doing what's right, they are acceptable before him. 36God sent his word to the Jewish people first, announcing the wonderful news of hope and peace through Jesus, the Anointed One, the Lord of all. 37You are well aware of all that began in Galilee and spread throughout the land of Israel immediately after John preached his message of baptism.

38"Jesus of Nazareth was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit and with great power. He did wonderful things for others and divinely healed all who were under the tyranny of the devil, for God had anointed him. 39We apostles were eyewitnesses to all the miracles that he performed throughout the land of Israel. Finally, in Jerusalem, he was crucified on a cross, 40but God raised him from the dead three days later, allowing him to be seen openly. 41He didn't appear to everyone, but he appeared to us, his chosen witnesses. *He actually ate and drank with us after he rose from the dead!*

42"Jesus ordered us to preach and warn the people that God had appointed him to be the judge of the living and the dead. 43*And not only us*, but all of the prophets agree in their writings that everyone who believes in him receives complete forgiveness of sins through the power of his name."

## **The Holy Spirit Falls**

44While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit cascaded over all those listening to his message. 45The Jewish brothers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on people who weren't Jews, 46for they heard them speaking in supernaturally given languages and passionately praising God.

47Peter said, "How could anyone object to these people being baptized? *For they have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.*" 48So he instructed them to be baptized in the power of the name of Jesus, the Anointed One.

After their baptism, they asked Peter to stay with them for a few more days.

# Acts 11

## Ethnic Barriers Broken

1The news traveled fast and soon reached the apostles and the believers living in Judea that non-Jewish people were also receiving God's *message of new life*. 2When Peter finally arrived in Jerusalem, **the Jewish believers called him to task, saying, 3“Why did you stay in the home of people who aren't Jewish? You even ate your meals with them!”**

4Peter explained what had happened, saying, 5“One day when I was in the city of Joppa, while I was praying I fell into an ecstatic trance and I went into another realm. I saw in a vision something like a linen tablecloth descending out of heaven, being let down by its four corners, and it got close to me. 6As I examined it I saw many four-footed animals, wild animals, reptiles, and wild birds. 7Then I heard a voice say to me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat them.’

**8“I said, ‘I can't do that, Lord! For I've never eaten anything that is forbidden or impure according to our Jewish laws.’**

9“The voice spoke to me again, saying, **‘Nothing is unclean if God declares it to be clean.’**

10“The vision repeated itself three times. Then suddenly the linen sheet was snatched back up into heaven. 11At that moment three men from Caesarea, who had been sent for me, approached the house where I was staying. **12The Spirit told me to accompany them with no questions asked.** These six brothers here with me made the trip, and we entered into the home of the man who had sent for me. 13He shared with us about the angel who appeared to him and told him to send messengers to Joppa to find Simon, the Rock. **The angel had told him, 14‘He will tell you and your family the message of how you can be saved!’**

15“Shortly after I began to speak, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon them, just like what happened to us at the beginning. 16And I remembered the words the Lord had told us: **‘John immersed you in water, but you will be immersed in the Holy Spirit.’** 17So I concluded that if God is pleased to give them the same gift of the Holy Spirit that he gave us after they believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who am I to stand in the way of God?”

18When they heard this, their objections were put to rest and they all glorified God, saying, **“Look what God has done! He's giving the gift of repentance that leads to life to people who aren't even Jews.”**

**John 4 - (You should ALREADY have SLIDES for this verse from the previous weeks)**

Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John <sup>2</sup>(though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples), <sup>3</sup>He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. <sup>4</sup>But He needed to go through Samaria.

<sup>5</sup>So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup>A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." <sup>8</sup>For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

<sup>9</sup>Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

<sup>10</sup>Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

<sup>11</sup>The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

<sup>15</sup>The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."

<sup>17</sup>The woman answered and said, "I have no husband."

Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."

<sup>19</sup>The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

<sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is (Because of, From out of) the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup>God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

<sup>25</sup>The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things."

<sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

<sup>27</sup>And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman;

<sup>28</sup>The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, <sup>29</sup>"Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" <sup>30</sup>Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

<sup>31</sup>In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

<sup>32</sup>But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."

<sup>33</sup>Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?"

<sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

<sup>39</sup>And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of His own word.

<sup>42</sup>Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

**JOHN 17:20**

<sup>20</sup>"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup>that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup>And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: <sup>23</sup>I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."