

| Acts          | Acts 10:28-29                                     | Mark                                                                           |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acts 9:31     | Acts 10:34-36                                     | Mark 5:40 (Peter mirroring<br>Jesus' actions when raising<br>Jairus' daughter) |
| Acts 9:32     | Acts 10:42-48                                     |                                                                                |
| Acts 9:35     | Acts 11:18                                        | Ephesians                                                                      |
| Acts 9:40     | Leviticus                                         | Ephesians 3 (Reference to the "dividing wall of hostility")                    |
| Acts 9:43     | Leviticus 11 (Reference to tanners and ceremonial |                                                                                |
| Acts 10:11-15 | uncleanness)                                      |                                                                                |
|               |                                                   |                                                                                |

Acts 10:17

## Sermon Title: ACTionS Week 6 - The Privilege of Repenting

Key Text: Acts 11:18 – "We can see that God has also given the Gentiles the privilege of repenting of their sins and receiving eternal life."

# I. Living in the Fear of the Lord

Text: Acts 9:31 – "...the church... became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord..."

- A. Understanding the Fear of the Lord
  - Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...
  - Psalm 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...
- B. Reverence and Awe for God's Holiness
  - The early church thrived because they recognized God's power and responded with reverence.

Application: Living in the fear of the Lord brings spiritual growth, boldness, and peace.

#### II. Miracles that Point to the Power of God

Text: Acts 9:32-35 – "...the whole population of Lydda and Sharon saw Aeneas walking around, and they turned to the Lord."

- A. The Healing of Aeneas
  - Aeneas had been paralyzed for 8 years.
  - o Peter declared, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat."
  - Result: Aeneas' healing led many to faith.
- B. The Raising of Tabitha (Dorcas)

Text: Acts 9:40 - "Get up, Tabitha." And she opened her eyes!

- Tabitha was a known believer, loved for her acts of kindness.
- Peter mirrored Jesus' example when raising Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:40).
- Result: Many more believed because of her resurrection.

Key Point: Miracles create opportunities to testify to God's power — we must be willing to share what God has done.

### III. Peter's Vision: Breaking Barriers

Text: Acts 10:11-15 - "Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean."

- A. God's Preparation for Inclusion
  - Peter's vision revealed that the Gospel was for all people Jew and Gentile alike.
  - o Cornelius, a "good man" by Roman standards, still needed the Gospel.
- B. Peter's Boldness to Obey
  - Peter acknowledged his past bias but obeyed God's command.
  - Acts 10:28 "God has shown me that I should no longer think of anyone as impure or unclean."
- C. The Holy Spirit's Confirmation

Text: Acts 10:44-48 - "...the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening..."

• The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles confirmed God's plan to save all who believe.

#### IV. The Power of Repentance

Text: Acts 11:18 - "...God has also given the Gentiles the privilege of repenting..."

- A. Repentance is a Privilege
  - o Salvation isn't limited by nationality, background, or social status.
  - The Gospel is an invitation extended to everyone.
- B. Embracing the Call to Testify
  - Peter didn't rely on copying Jesus' methods he trusted in the power of Jesus.
  - We, too, must be willing to trust God's leading and share the Gospel boldly.

### **Conclusion: Trusting God's Sovereignty**

- Acts 9:43 Peter stayed with Simon the Tanner, showing his willingness to embrace what God was revealing.
- Just like Peter, we may find ourselves in unexpected places, yet God is always at work preparing us to minister to those around us.
- Call to Action: Embrace the privilege of repentance both for yourself and as a message to share with others.

Closing Scripture: Acts 11:18 – "When they heard this, they stopped objecting and began praising God."