

Acts 11:1-18 – Peter Defends God's Grace!

9/5/26 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com <https://www.ptwente.com>

Last Week: [10:44-48] While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. [45] And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit (Himself) had been poured out on the Gentiles also. [46] For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, [47] "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" [48] And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

ACTS 11:1-18: – Peter Reports to the Church

[1] Now the apostles and brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. [2] And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those of the circumcision contended with him, [3] saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!" [4] But Peter explained it to them in order from the beginning, saying: [5] "I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me. [6] When I observed it intently and considered, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. [7] And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' [8] But I said, 'Not so, Lord! For nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.' [9] But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common.' [10] Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. [11] At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. [12] Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. [13] And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, [14] who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.' [15] And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. [16] Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' [17] If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" [18] When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

SUMMARY:

We have God's divine plan being unfolded here in such a beautiful way to bring salvation to the Gentiles in such a dramatic and visible way that it is known to everybody. We are going to see as Peter is called on the carpet now that it is known by everybody. And it is just a beautiful thing.

God could have done all this in silence, quietly, sovereignly. He could have just got these Gentiles together without anybody ever knowing about it, and they could have all been saved. It might not have made that much difference with the Gentiles that are being saved, but it would have made a big difference for the church. Because now it is acknowledged in the church that there is no difference between Jew and Gentile. All one in Christ. Praise God!

The essence of the story is that (negatively) God shows no favoritism (**Act 10:34**) *Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality, and making no distinction between races (**Act 10:20,29**) Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." [29] Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?" (**Act 11:12**) Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. (**Act 15:9**) and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. And that (positively) He gave and gives the same Spirit to all alike, not irrespective of faith, but irrespective of circumcision.*

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE BAPTIZED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- It means you are **BORN AGAIN**; "saved" **Act 10:47; 11:1,14,17-18; Tit 3:5; Eph 4:4-5**
- It means you are a **MEMBER** of the body of Christ, the Church – **1Co 12:12-13**
 - ✓ All true believers, whether carnal or spiritual, have experienced it!
 - ✓ While some spoke in tongues when it happened (**Act 11:2, 10, 19**), not everyone did (**1Co 12:30**)
- It means the Holy Spirit **PRESENCE** is in your physical body and is affected by all that you do or say **1Co 6:18-20; Eph 4:30-32; Jaes 4:4-10; 1Th 5:19-22**
- It means that you have **POWER** to witness – **Act 1:4-8; 4:31-33; Luk 24:47-49**

PRAY TODAY FOR: *(1Ti 2:1-4) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, [2] for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. [3] For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, [4] who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD – Edward Hatch – York College Concert Choir (1:56/2:00)

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with Thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly Thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.