





Gospel to the Gentiles

- 1. A God-Orchestrated Advance
 - the sequence of double-visions emphasizes that this is God's initiative and work
 - Peter is essential in God's process of bringing the gospel to the Gentile Cornelius

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- 2. An Epic Transition
 - Peter's vision signaled God's setting aside of the 'clean and unclean' provisions of the Law
 - in erasing the boundary between clean and unclean animals, God erased the boundary between clean and unclean peoples

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- 3. A Gentile Pentecost
 - Peter proclaimed the 'good news of peace' through Jesus Christ to Cornelius' household
 - God signified His full acceptance of the Gentile believers by pouring out the Spirit on them in the same way as He had done at Pentecost

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- > Application
 - Be amazed and humbled that we Gentiles are fully included as God's people through faith in Christ (cf. Eph. 2:11-22)

¹¹ Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," *which is* performed in the flesh by human hands—¹² remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who made both *groups into* one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, ¹⁵ by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

(Ephesians 2:11-16)

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- > Application
 - Be amazed and humbled that we Gentiles are fully included as God's people through faith in Christ (cf. Eph. 2:11-22)
 - 'Do not call any man unholy or unclean' see no one as beyond the reach of the gospel or beneath our investment of the gospel