

THE GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES The Antioch Church

Acts 11:1-30

Key Verse: 11:20,21

* GOD GRANTED TO THE GENTILES REPENTANCE UNTO LIFE (1-18)

1. Read verses 1-3. What was the reaction of the Apostles and the church in Judea and Jerusalem when they heard that the Gentiles had received the gospel? Why was Peter criticized?
2. Look at verses 4-18. How did Peter describe his vision? (4-10) What did this vision mean to him? (11-12) Who did Peter take with him to Cornelius' house? Why was their presence important? (12)
3. How had God prepared the Gentiles in Caesarea for receiving the gospel? (13-14) What happened when Peter told the Gentiles the message of salvation? (15) How was this similar to what had happened at Pentecost?
4. What did Peter remember? (16) What reason did he give for baptizing the Gentiles into the church? What did was God teaching Peter, the apostles and the circumcised brothers through this whole experience? What is the importance of this event?(18)

* THE FIRST GENTILE CHURCH (19-30)

5. Read verses 19-21. Why did believers scatter? To where did they scatter? What new thing happened in Antioch? (Notice where the bearers of the gospel message were from.) How did God bless the preaching of the gospel to non-Jews?
6. Read verses 22-24. Why did the church at Jerusalem send Barnabas to Antioch? Who was Barnabas? (4:36-37; 9:26-27; 11:23,24) How did he view what was going on in Antioch? How did he encourage the believers and with what result?
7. Read verses 25-26. Where was Saul? Why did Barnabas search for him and bring him to Antioch? Why might Saul be the best Bible teacher for the new believers in Antioch? What did it mean that these believers were called Christians?
8. Read verses 27-30. What problem in the Empire did the prophet Agabus predict? Why might this especially affect the church in Jerusalem? What did the Antioch church do about it? Why? (Think about Barnabas and think about Jesus.) Why was their action important to the whole church?