

Acts of the Apostles

chapters

- 1 *Stand by Me*
- 2a *You Light Up My*
- 2b *He's ALIVE*
- 3 *When Tomorrow Starts without Me*
- 4a *Got Friends in Low Places*
- 4b *LIAR – Lying to God*
- 5 *Why God's Wondrous Grace*
- 6-7 *Ballad of Green Beret—Stephen*
- 8 *I Feel Like Travellin' On*
- 9a *You Light Up My Life*
- 9b *Don't Take the Girl—Tabitha, Gazelle*
- 10-11 *Long As I Can See the Light*
- 12 *Praying*

Acts 10:34-35

34 Peter, "I realize ... TRUE ...

God does not show favoritism

35 but accepts from every nation the one who fears right."



Ancient Caesarea



Vision of Cornelius the Centurion
by Gerbrand van den Eeckhout, c. 1663



Sunset 8-17-2024



Early Church

	Chapter	Title	Summary
June 2	1	<i>Stand by Me</i>	Gift of Holy Ghost Coming
June 9	2a	<i>You Light Up My Life</i>	Pentecost—Gift of Holy Spirit
June 16	2b	<i>He's ALIVE</i>	1st Sermon Resurrection - Unified, Devoted, Shared
June 23	3	<i>When Tomorrow Starts</i>	Peter Heals Lame – 2nd Sermon Resurrection
June 30	4a	<i>Got Friends in Low Places</i>	Crocodile Bill & Peter to Rulers of Jerusalem
July 7	4b	<i>LIAR – Lying to God</i>	Shaken, Shared - Ananias & Sapphira's Lies
July 14	5	<i>Why God's Wondrous Grace</i>	Apostles Arrested & Gamaliel's Defense
July 21	6-7	<i>Ballad of Green Beret</i>	Stephen—Church's 1st Martyr
July 28	8	<i>I Feel Like Travellin' On</i>	Angel, Phillip, Candace
Aug 4	9a	<i>You Light Up My Life</i>	Paul Blinded, then SEES & Tells ALL
Aug 11	9b	<i>Don't Take the Girl</i>	Peter Heals Aenaes & Raises Tabitha
Aug 18	10-11	<i>Long As I Can See the Light</i>	Peter's Vision—EAT
Aug 25	12	<i>Praying</i>	Peter Freed from Prison

God Sends Peter to Centurion Cornelius

BOTH Peter & Cornelius's LIVES are ENLIGHTENED

Neither Peter nor Cornelius could SEE or PLAN this

This is the Long Road to the Homecoming of Jew & Gentile



CCR put out a song in 1970

As Long As I Can See the Light

John Fogerty said it was about a

“World-weary Figure,” maybe like Jeremiah

Put a candle in the window

'Cause I feel I've got to move

Though I'm going, going

I'll be coming home soon

Long as I can see the light



Our Church



Sunset 8-17-24

Chapters 10 & 11

Peter's Great Vision

- 10:1-8** Angel visits Cornelius ... Sends for Peter
- 10:9-16** Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... **EAT**
- 10:17-42** Cornelius' Men Brings Peter to Caesarea
- 10:43** Declaration – All Prophets testify ... **FORGIVENESS**
- 10:44-46** Sign – Spirit comes ... Gentile Pentecost
- 10:47-48** Acceptance – Baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ
- 11:1-18** Peter tells Jerusalem of His & Cornelius' Visions

next week **11:19-30** Church Antioch Helps with Famine

12:1-25 Peter Arrested, Freed – Death Herod



10:34 “God does not show
favoritism”

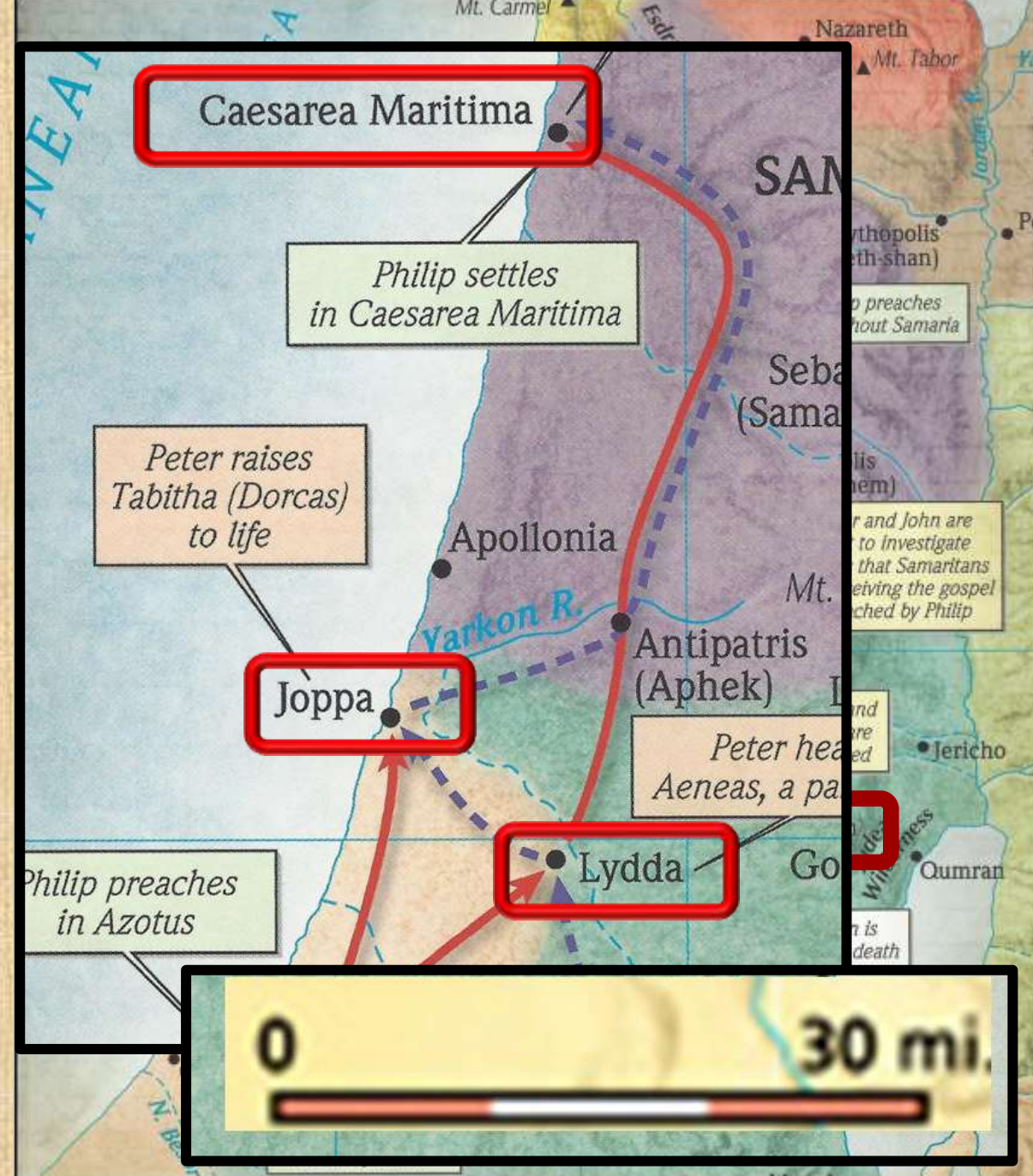
Acts 9, Peter

- ✓ Healed Aneas in Lydda
- ✓ Disciples in Joppa HEARD that Peter was in Lydda
- ✓ Disciples asked Peter to come
- ✓ Peter to Joppa and
Raises Tabitha from DEAD

Acts 10, Peter asked to go
to Caesarea to see
Gentile Centurion Believer



Acts 11 Peter to Jerusalem
repeats story of Centurion



Alternate Title for Lesson

Eating for the Kingdom



Context, or *after-text* – Acts 11 – *after Cornelius*

11:1-4 ... The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.

So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”

Peter told them the whole story ...

Peter told Jerusalem church his & Cornelius’ visions during their visit to Caesarea & Spirit Coming



Acts 10

Vision of Cornelius the Centurion

by
Gerbrand van den
Eeckhout

c. 1663



Watch as the passage unfolds for the **Work of God**

Notice that an **Angel** talks to Cornelius

Spirit talks to Peter – *talk about connected*

Remarkable chapter ... notice this

- ✓ If ever there was a **DIVINE** appointment, that was “set up” step by step by God
- ✓ Set up in **TWO** cities at the same time
- ✓ Perhaps, this event is the **MOST** meticulously “set up” appointment in Scripture



Key Doctrines – *Church & Salvation*

**Salvation is offered freely to all who accept
Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior**

Baptist Faith & Message (1963) – www.PreciousHeart.net/Baptist_Faith.htm

Article IV. Salvation

Article VI. The Church



Baptist Faith & Message (1963) – www.PreciousHeart.net/Baptist_Faith.htm

Article IV. Salvation. Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes Regeneration, Sanctification, and Glorification.

A. Regeneration ... B. Sanctification ... C. Glorification ...

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.



Baptist Faith & Message (1963) – www.PreciousHeart.net/Baptist_Faith.htm

Article VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ, committed to His teachings, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. This church is an autonomous body, operating through democratic processes under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. In such a congregation members are equally responsible. Its Scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. **The New Testament speaks also of the church as the body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages.**

Mat 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42, 47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23, 27; Acts 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Rom 1:7; 1Co 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Eph 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11, 21; 5:22-32; Php 1:1; Col 1:18; 1Ti 3:1-15; 4:14.



Augustus H. Strong, *Systematic Theology* (1907; 1,166 pgs) >
Part VII, Ecclesiology Chapter 1. Constitution of the Church -

https://www.google.com/books/edition/Systematic_Theology/Uq4PAAAAIAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=augustus+strong+systematic+theology&printsec=frontcover



Chapters 10 & 11

Peter's Great Vision

- 10:1-8** Angel visits Cornelius ... Sends for Peter
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10:34 “God does not show
favoritism

10:1-8 Angel Visits Cornelius ... Sends for Peter

- 1 At Caesarea ... Cornelius, a centurion ... Italian Regiment.**
- 2 He & family ... God-fearing ... gave generously to poor & prayed to God.**
- 3 3 p.m. ... vision ... ANGEL ... said, "Cornelius!"**
- 4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.
The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have
come up as a memorial offering before God.**



**Vision of Cornelius
the Centurion, c. 1663**
by Gerbrand van den Eeckhout



**Vision of Cornelius
the Centurion, c. 1663
by Gerbrand van den Eeckhout**



10:1-8 Angel Visits Cornelius ... Sends for Peter

3 3 p.m. ... vision ... ANGEL ... said, "Cornelius!"

4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.

The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.

5-6 Send to Joppa ... Simon ... Peter..... staying with Simon the tanner whose house is by the SEA."

7-8 ... Cornelius sends two servants & a soldier ... to Joppa.



10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

10:9 On the morrow, as they [Cornelius' 3 men] went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city,

Peter went upon the housetop to pray about the 6th hour:

10:10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

“while they made ready” – what does that mean?

killing ... plucking ... stoking fire ...

lot more work for a meal back then



10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

10:11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth

Very CLEAR Message of SOME sort ?!?!?!?

12 It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds.

13 Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill & Eat."

Eating for the Kingdom





10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

^{10:11} And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a **great sheet knit** at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

Term used in “**sheet knit**” at corners is in ancient Greek medicine for bandage of sorts

Caduceus is the winged staff of Hermes w/ snakes, the symbol of commerce – today of medicine

See also Rod of Asclepius, God of Healing who's symbol adorns emergency vehicles

Army Med Corp adopted it in 1902



***Hellenism for 2500 years
influence of Greek culture
from Alexander the Great***

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Many renditions of
Peter's vision

Fried Hippo?



10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

12 ... all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds.

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Many renditions of
Peter's vision

**Baked
Monkey?**

**Rack of
Raccoon**



10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

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Many renditions of
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Peter's Vision

by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872)
in his *Picture Bible*,
first in German in 30 parts 1852-60,
then in English ins 1862



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10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

13 Then a voice told him, **“Get up, Peter. Kill & Eat.”**

Command goes against ALL he knows as a Jew

14 **“Surely not, Lord!”** Peter replied.

“I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.”

Command to **“KILL & Eat”** – especially when you're hungry

Eating for the Kingdom





Eating for the Kingdom

No one does it better than Baptists



10:9-16 Peter's Vision – Heaven open ... Sheet Down ... EAT

10:15 Voice spoke to him a second time,

“Do call anything impure that God has cleaned.”

16 This happened three times, and

immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.

You KNOW that means?

ALL know what that means

Yes, we do!



Bacon



10:17-42 Cornelius' men Brings Peter to Caesarea

10:17-20 – Cornelius' men arrive ...

Spirit speaks to Peter to go with them

10:21 Peter went down to them....

**10:22 The men replied, “We have come from
Cornelius the centurion.**

**He is a righteous and God-fearing man,
who is respected by all the Jewish people.**

**A holy angel told him to ask you to come to
his house so that he could hear what you have to say.”**

What was the PURPOSE of calling Peter to Cornelius?

So that Cornelius could hear the Gospel ... straight



CCR put out a song in 1970

As Long As I Can See the Light

John Fogerty said it was about a

“World-weary Figure,” maybe like Jeremiah

Long as I can see the light

Pack my bag and let's get moving

'Cause I'm bound to drift a while

Though I'm gone, gone

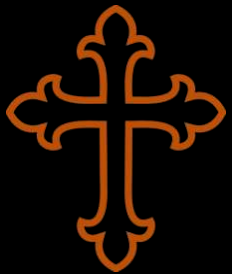
You don't have to worry, no

Long as I can see the light



Vision of Cornelius the Centurion

Gerbrand van den
Eeckhout
c. 1663



Centurion Cornelius

- ✓ Common name since 82 BC when Publius Cornelius Sulla (100-45 BC) emancipated 10,000 slaves
- ✓ Cornelius the Centurion considered **First Gentile Convert**
- ✓ In N.T., ALL centurions are spoken of in GOOD LIGHT
- ✓ Chosen temperament, deliberation, strength of mind
- ✓ At Cross, Centurion, **“Truly this man was the Son of God.”**
Matthew 27:54, Mark 15:39, Luke 23:47
- ✓ Centurion over 100 soldiers – within an Italian Cohort of about 1,000 cohort was about a 10th part of a Legion
- ✓ Many Centurions awarded citizenship when term completed
 - ✓ No Legions in Judea until AD 66 for Jewish revolt
 - ✓ Acts 27:1 we see “Augustan Cohort”



Acts 10:22 says Cornelius was a “God-fearer”

- ✓ People FEARED God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob—the Jews’ God
- ✓ People FEARED God of Judaism 3rd century BC to date
- ✓ Friends of Hellenistic Jews—*Gentiles* learning, praying
- ✓ Acts 13:50 “God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city”
- ✓ Acts 17:4 “Large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women”
- ✓ Acts 17:17 “Paul reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews & God-fearing Greeks ... in the marketplace day by day”
- ✓ Acts 18:7 In Corinth, “Paul ... went to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God.”



Peter is now off to Caesarea to see a

God-Fearing Gentile Centurion



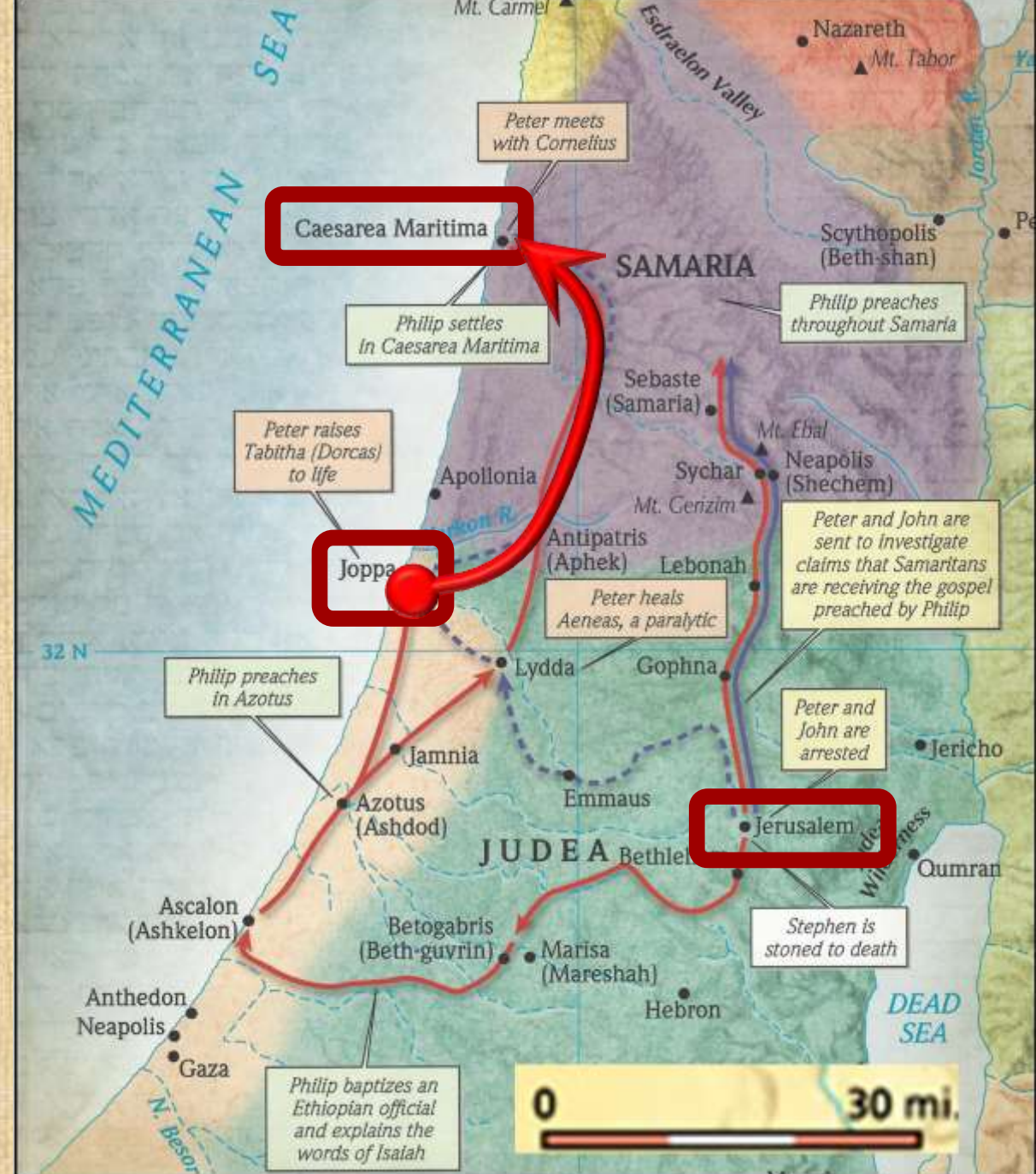
Peter from Joppa to Caesarea

**Caesarea was built up
by Herod the Great**

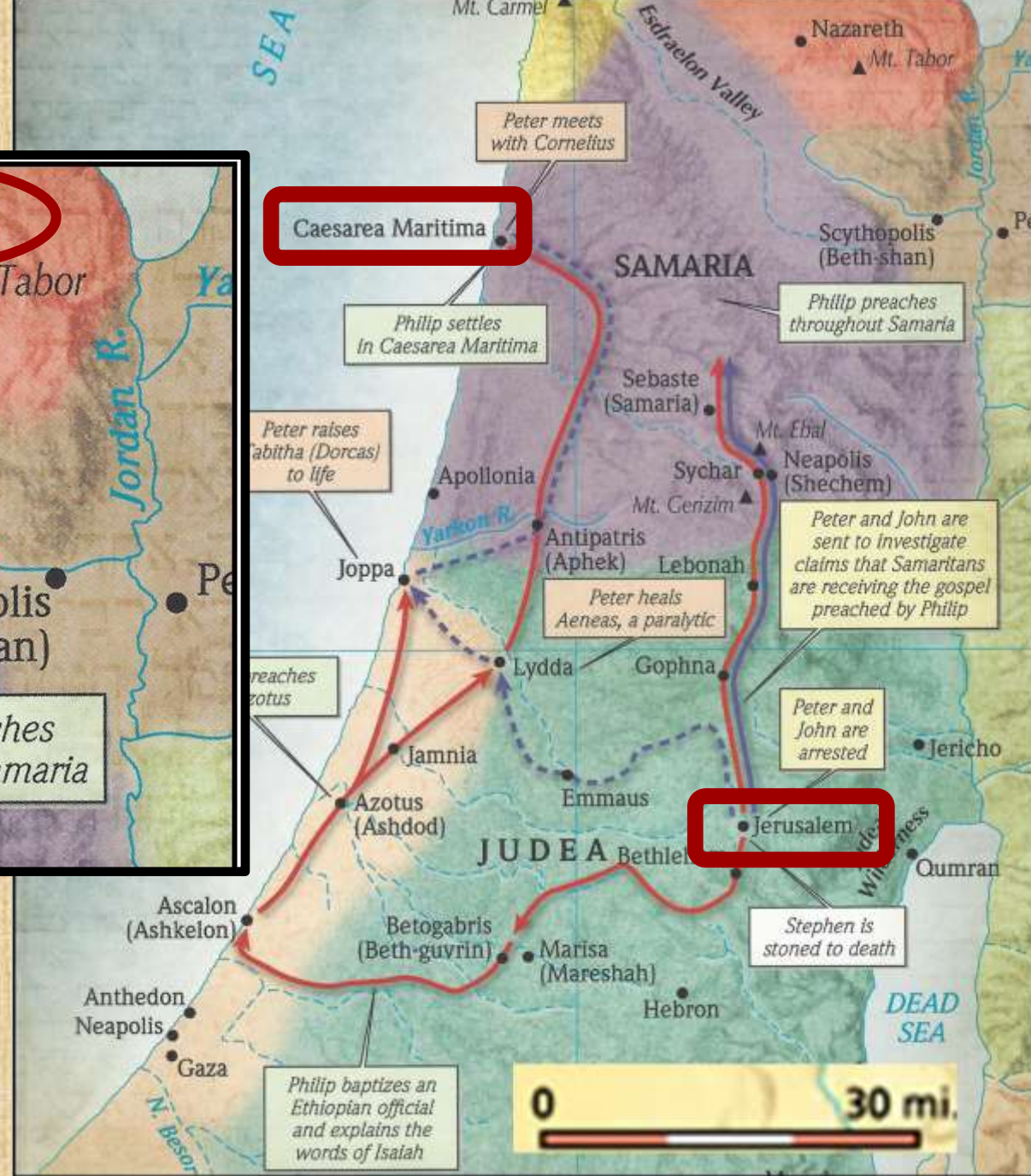
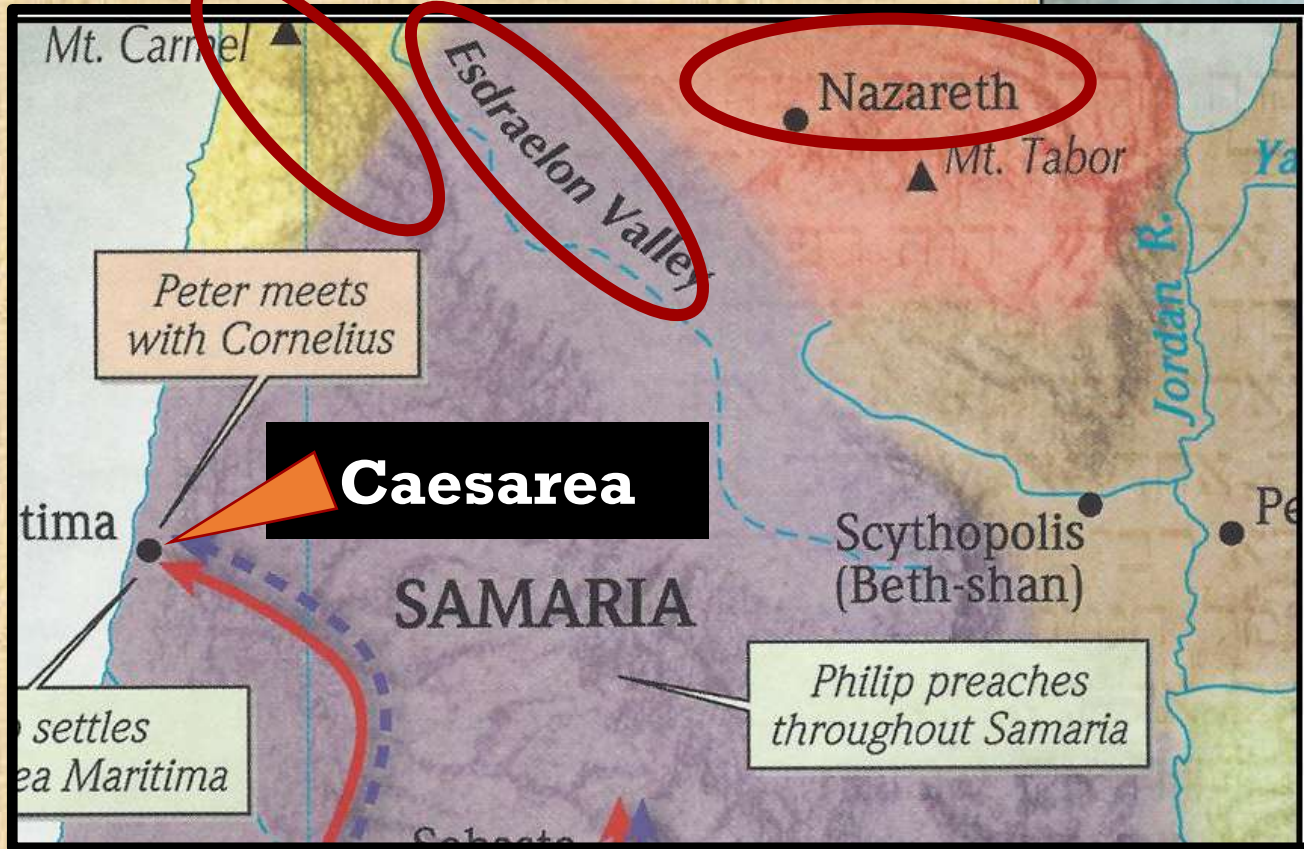
**In 25-13 BC in honor of
Augustus (27 BC to AD 14)**

Roman HQ Judea

**Center of Trade
and major port**



Caesarea





**Great
Sea Port**

**Ancient
Caesarea**

Caesarea

Great Theater, seating over 4,000



Caesarea



Hippodrome could seat 10,000

Caesarea's Great Aqueduct

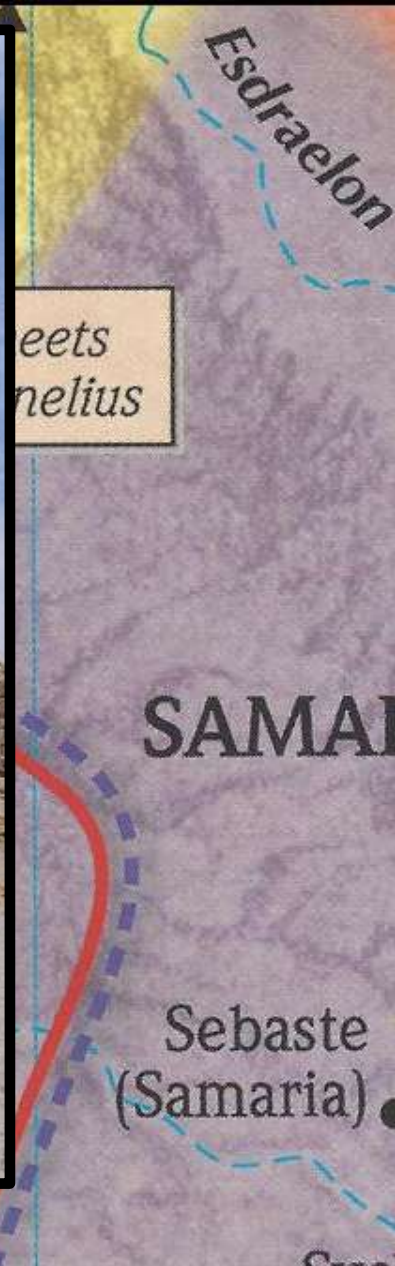
- 4.5 miles
- 300 m³ hour
- supply 50,000



Caesarea

Great Amphitheatre

- 4.5 m
- 300
- sup



Tabitha (Dorcas)

Caesarea's

Great Aqueduct

- 4.5 miles
- 300 m3 h
- supply 50



Mt. Carmel

Esdraelon

Peter meets
with Cornelius

SAMARIA

Timna

Sebaste
(Samaria)

Bulgaria

Plovdiv Aqueduct

Croatia

Burnum Aqueduct

Diocletianus Aqueduct

France

Pont du Gard in France

Aqueduct from Gorze to Metz, France

Pont du Gard, southern France

Barbegal aqueduct

Aqueduct of the Gier

Luynes, Indre-et-Loire

Nîmes

Aqueduct from Gorze to Metz

Germany

Eifel aqueduct

Greece

Argos, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Athens, Peisistratid Aqueduct

Athens, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Athens, Long Walls Aqueduct

Athens, Late Roman aqueduct

Corinth, Hadrian's Aqueduct

Kavala aqueduct, Kavala

Mytilene, Lesbos

Nicopolis, Epirus

Patras

Italy

Aqua Claudia

Aqua Anio Novus

Aqua Augusta, Naples

Pont d'Aël, Aosta Valley

Aqua Appia, Rome

Aqua Virgo, Rome

Aqua Alexandrina, Rome

Aqua Anio Novus, Rome

Aqua Alsietina, Rome

Israel

Caesarea Maritima, Israel

Lebanon

Aqueduct of Zubaida, Beirut

Aqueduct of Tyre, Tyre

Aqueduct of Msaylha, Batroun

Aqueduct of Nahr Ibrahim, Jbeil

Portugal

Aqueduto de São Sebastião, Coimbra

Macedonia

Skopje Aqueduct

Spain

Los Milagros Aqueduct in Mérida

Almuñécar (5 w/ 4 still in use)

Albarracín, Gea-Cella

Aqua Marcia, Dorchester, Dorset

Barcino

Bejis

Caños de Carmona

Cordoba (Aqua Fontis Aureae)

Itálica

Las Medulas

Iles Ferreres, Tarragona

Los Banales

Los Milagros Aqueduct

Lugo

Noain

Onuba Aestuarria

Peña Cortada

Rabo de Buey-San Lázaro

Aqueduct of Segovia

Toledo

Valdepuentes

Tunisia

Aqueduct of Hadrian

Turkey

Aqueduct of Valens

Aspendos, Antalya Province

Lamas Aqueduct, Mersin Province

United Kingdom

Dolaucothi

Dorchester, Dorset

Lancaster

Roman Aqueducts

CCR put out a song in 1970

As Long As I Can See the Light

John Fogerty said it was about a

“World-weary Figure,” maybe like Jeremiah

Guess I've got that old traveling bone

'Cause this feeling won't leave me alone

But I won't, won't

Be losing my way, no, no

Long as I can see the light



10:17-42 Cornelius' Men Brings Peter to Caesarea

**10:23-24 Next day Peter started out with them ...
following day he arrived in Caesarea.**

Cornelius ... gathered relatives & close friends

- * Cornelius—had put a LIGHT in his Window**
- * Caesarea—Internationally famed city of influence**
- * Caesarea—City capital of Roman governance in Israel**

25 Cornelius ... fell at Peter's feet...

26 But Peter said, "Stand up ... I am only a man myself."

**27-28 Peter reminded this Centurion Cornelius that it was
against Jewish Law for him, a Jew, to visit a Gentile**



**But God has shown me that I should
not call anyone impure or unclean.**



10:17-42 Cornelius' Men Brings Peter to Caesarea

10:29 ... Peter, "May I ask why you sent for me?"

30-33 Cornelius repeats his story of the Angel's orders

34-42 Peter : "I now realize ... God does not show favoritism ...

- ✓ accepts from every nation the one who fears him ...**
- ✓ Good News of peace thru Jesus Christ ... Lord of all....**
- ✓ You know ... Judea ... baptism John preached**
- ✓ God anointed Jesus ... with the Holy Spirit & power...**
- ✓ Jesus ... healed ALL under the power of the devil....**
- ✓ They killed him by hanging him on a cross ...**
 - ✓ God raised him from the dead on the third day ...**
 - ✓ Seen ... by us who ate & drank with him....**
 - ✓ Jesus commanded us to preach to the people ...**
 - ✓ that Jesus is ... judge of the living and the dead.**



**Peter Tells
Gospel Story**

10:43 Declaration – All Prophets testify ... Forgiveness

10:43 Peter continues, “All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives

FORGIVENESS of sins through his name.”

Gentile Centurion Cornelius, a God-Fearer – steeped in Jewish lore

Now receives the TRUTH about Jesus - All the prophets testify

Greatest act of God in Christ that opens

the Christian to all the blessings of God

Forgiveness of God



10:44-46 Sign – Spirit comes ... Gentile Pentecost

**44 WHILE Peter was still speaking these words,
the Holy Spirit came on ALL who HEARD the message.**

Charles H. Spurgeon, fine words on the Outpouring of Holy Spirit

#201 Sunday Morning, 6-20-1858, at the Music Hall, Royal Surrey Gardens - p. 508f

www.PreciousHeart.net/SS/Spurgeon-Acts-10-44-Spirit-1858.pdf

**We can explain what the Spirit does, but HOW he does it,
no man must pretend to know.**

Work of the Holy Spirit is the peculiar mystery of the Christian religion.

Almost any other thing is plain, but this must remain an inscrutable secret....

Who knoweth where the winds are begotten?

Who knoweth, therefore, HOW the Spirit worketh, for he is like the wind?

“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof ...

so is every one that is born of the Spirit.” ...

**In Holy Scripture certain great secrets of nature are mentioned as being parallel
with the secret working of the Spirit.**



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The procreation of children is instanced as a parallel wonder ...

how much less, therefore, shall we expect to know that MORE
secret & hidden mystery of the ... new creation of man in Christ Jesus.

But let no man be staggered at this, for they are mysteries in nature:

the wisest man will tell you there are depths ... he cannot dive....

He who pretends to have unravelled the knot of creation hath made a mistake,

he may have cut the knot by his rough ... foolish conjectures,

but the knot itself must remain beyond the power of man's unravelling,
until God himself shall explain the secret....

HOW the Spirit works, no man can know.

But now I wish to explain **WHAT** the Holy Spirit does....

First, it is an awakening of the powers that man already has, and

Secondly, it is an implantation of powers which he never had at all.

10:44-46 Sign – Spirit comes ... Gentile Pentecost

- 44 WHILE Peter was still speaking these words,
the Holy Spirit came on ALL who HEARD the message.**
- 45 Circumcised believers ... with Peter were astonished that the
gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.**
- 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues & praising God.**

Called the Gentile Pentecost

Unique to this was how Luke records God's set up

At the **SAME TIME**, Jewish Peter & Gentile Cornelius received

DETAILED instructions & orders

from God to MEET



10:47-48 Acceptance – Baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ

47 Peter said, “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”

48 So Peter ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Good News is now for **ALL THE WORLD**
Paul will become **THE** evangelist to
the **Gentile World**



Peter Baptizing the Centurion Cornelius
c. 1709, by Francesco Trevisani

**Peter Baptizing the
Centurion Cornelius
c. 1709
by Francesco Trevisani**



Paul in Galatians 3:24-29

Paul gives us the refined jewels of Peter's message

Gal 3:24-25 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith.

Now that this faith has come,
we are no longer under a guardian.

Gal 3:26-27 So in Christ Jesus you are

ALL children of God through faith,
for all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.



Paul in Galatians 3:24-29 *continues*

Gal 3:28-29 There is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither slave nor free,
nor is there male and female,
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

**If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed,
and heirs according to the promise.**

All fulfilled in Christ ... United, Freed in Christ

Not just about Food or Bacon anymore



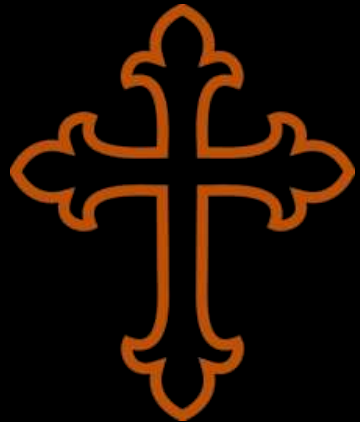
No spiritual symbol in **EATING**

No Great Theology inherent in **EATING**

EXCEPT when we meet for **Lord's Supper** ...

Theology is the Greatest & of GREAT Simplicity ...

we ALL eat ... all MUST eat ... yet **In Christ**
There is UNION in "Communion"



Dawn of the Church

Focus moves from Temple Judaism
to the spread of the N.T. Church

- ✓ No Separation by Circumcision
- ✓ No Separation by Food & Ritual
- ✓ No Separation by Clean & Unclean
- ✓ No Separation by Male or Female
- ✓ No Separation by Jew or Gentile

United in Christ for the Kingdom of God



Sunset 8-17-24

**May we accept God's
Forgiveness
& eat well**



I'll be comin' home soon

Long as I can see the light

