

Words Cornelius Heard

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Cornelius, the devout, God-fearing, alms-giving, always-praying centurion (Acts 10:1-2), was instructed by an angel of God in a vision to send for Peter, “Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved” (Acts 11:13-14). Let me bring to your attention words Cornelius heard (Acts 10:34-48).

1) ***God Is No Respector Of Persons.*** Cornelius heard words about God! About the only time some today hear God mentioned is when the name of God is taken in vain (Ex. 20:7) or they are told there is no God (Ps. 14:1). Cornelius heard Peter say, “Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons” (Acts 10:34). Paul penned, “For there is no respect of persons with God” (Rom. 2:11). Colossians 3:25 records, “But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.” Thus, he was impressed with the impartiality of God!

2) ***In Every Nation.*** God is not just God in Jerusalem or in America, He is “The God of the whole earth...” (Is. 54:5). Peter said, “But in every nation...” (Acts 10:34). It was prophesied, “And it shall come to pass in the

last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it” (Is. 2:2). When the Lord gave the apostles their marching orders He said, “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (Lk. 24:47).

3) ***He That Feareth Him And Worketh Righteousness Is Accepted With Him.*** Cornelius heard words about how to be accepted with God! This passage reflects two groups of people: those accepted and those rejected! To be accepted with God, two things are necessary: fearing Him and working righteousness. To fear God is to reverence Him, and to work righteousness is to keep His commandments, “...for all thy commandments are righteousness” (Ps. 119:172).

4) ***Peace By Christ.*** Cornelius heard words about Christ, the Son of God! Peter said, “The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ...” (Acts 10:36). Jesus said, “...in me ye might have peace....” (Jn. 16:33). Paul wrote

the Ephesians, “For he is our peace...” (Eph. 2:14). Christ made peace “...through the blood of his cross...” (Col. 1:20).

5) ***He Is Lord Of All.*** Cornelius heard about the authority of Jesus Christ. Peter preached, “...he is Lord of all” (Acts 10:36). He is not a lord among lords, but He is “...Lord of lords” (1 Tim. 6:15). There is “One Lord...” (Eph. 4:5) — Jesus, with “All power...in heaven and in earth” (Mt. 28:18). Is He Lord of your life?

6) ***Who Went About Doing Good.*** Cornelius heard words about the life of Christ (Acts 10:37-39). The biography of Jesus in five words — “...who went about doing good...” (v. 38). Peter penned, “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth...” (1 Pet. 2:21-22).

7) ***Slain and Hanged On A Tree.*** Cornelius heard about the death of Christ. “And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree”, Peter said (Acts 10:39). On Pentecost

Peter preached, "...ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain" (Acts 2:23). Acts 5:30 reports, "...whom ye slew and hanged on a tree." John 19 records the scene.

8) **Raised Up.** Peter's preaching did not leave Jesus dead in the grave. Cornelius heard about the resurrection of the Lord! "Him God raised up the third day..." (Acts 10:40). Matthew 28:1-8 affirms the fact that up from the grave He arose! The angel said, "...He is not here: for he is risen..." (v. 6).

9) **Shewed Openly.** Cornelius heard about the appearance of Christ, how that "...God...shewed him openly; Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead" (Acts 10:40-41). John 20-21 records post-resurrection appearances, and finds disciples eating and drinking with the Lord after He rose from the dead. Paul reminded the Corinthians of the fact that Jesus "...was seen..." (1 Cor. 15:5-8).

10) **Ordained Judge.** Cornelius heard words about the judgment! Peter preached, "And

he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead" (Acts 10:42). Paul informed those in Athens that God "...now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31).

11) **Remission Of Sins.** Cornelius heard words about remission of sins by Christ. "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43). Jeremiah, telling of a new covenant, announced, "...for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jer. 31:34). Jesus declared, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Lk. 24:47). This took place on the day of Pentecost, recorded in Acts 2, as Peter preached, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus

Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38). Many today hear preaching and never hear words about sin. That was not the case when Cornelius heard words from the mouth of Peter, the man of God.

12) **Water Baptism.** A lot of folks do not hear anything about baptism, unless they are told that it is not necessary to be baptized. On this occasion, Peter said, "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized...? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord..." (Acts 10:47-48). Jesus taught, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them..." (Mt. 28:19). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved..." (Mk. 16:16). Preaching Christ includes preaching the need to be baptized (Acts 8:5, 12, 35-39)!

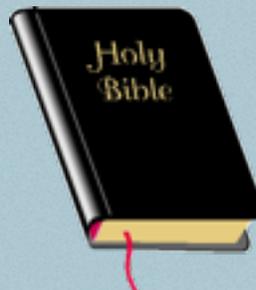
Hearing words is vital to our salvation. Jesus said, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Mt. 11:15). Hearing is the first step to healing (Mt 13:15). Calling upon the name of the Lord so as to be saved involves hearing, believing, and obeying (Rom. 10:13-17). You have heard words Cornelius heard. Will you believe and obey?

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