

Acts 11:1-18 **Peter confronted at Jerusalem for going to the Gentiles**

Challenged by Jewish Believers

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!"

Peter recited the Vision of the Sheet full of Animals

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.

Command from the Spirit

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.'

Outpouring of the Holy Spirit – Reasoning of Peter

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?"

Conclusion by those in Jerusalem

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." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Challenged by Jewish Believers

- ✚ Now the **apostles and brethren who were in Judea** heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. And when Peter came up to **Jerusalem**, those of the circumcision contended with him, saying, "**You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!**"

[Acts 11:1-3]

- ✧ We learned by Peter's words to Cornelius that it was against Jewish law for a Jew to dine or have fellowship with a Gentile. [Acts 10:28]

- ✧ That was evident in the encounter between Jesus and the woman at the well in Samaria. [John 4:9]

- ✧ Here it is the Jews holding to the traditions of Judaism that challenge Peter, "**You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!**" [Acts 11:3]

- ✧ It was the traditions of Judaism that Jesus condemned as the commandments of men.

[Matthew 15:1-20, Mark 7:1-23]

Peter recited the Vision of the Sheet full of Animals

✠ But Peter explained it to them in order from the beginning, saying: "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. When I observed it intently and considered, **I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air**. And I heard a **voice** saying to me, '**Rise, Peter; kill and eat.**' "But I said, 'Not so, Lord! For nothing **common or unclean** has at any time entered my mouth.' "**But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common.'**" Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. [Acts 11:4-10, 10:9-16]

Command from the Spirit

✠ At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. Then **the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing**. Moreover **these six brethren accompanied me**, and we entered the man's house. 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, who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.' [Acts 11:11-14, 10:17-23, 45]

✧ The Spirit commanded Peter to go with the Gentiles, and Peter had six Jewish witnesses who had gone with him.

✧ The message was to inform the Gentiles what was required for their Salvation.

Outpouring of the Holy Spirit – Reasoning of Peter

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Conclusion by those in Jerusalem

✠ When they heard these things they **became silent**; and they **glorified God**, saying, "**Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.**" [Acts 11:18]

✧ Praise God for the truth of that conclusion.