

# Bible Greats Series

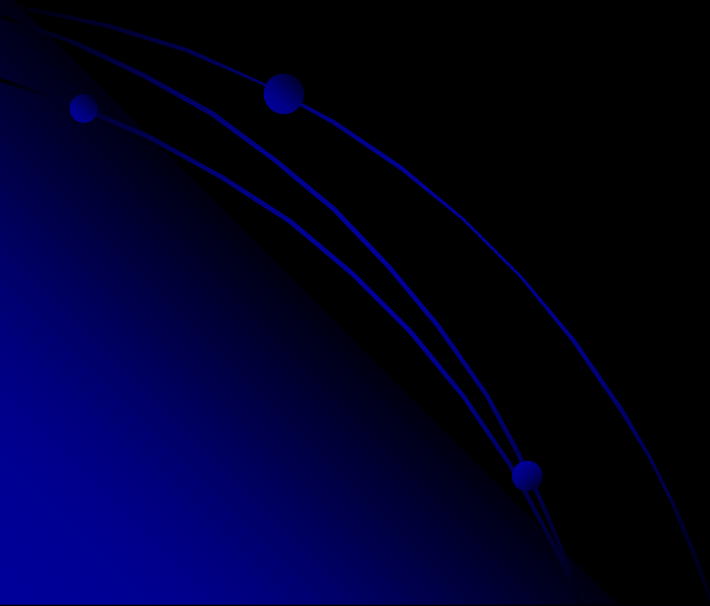
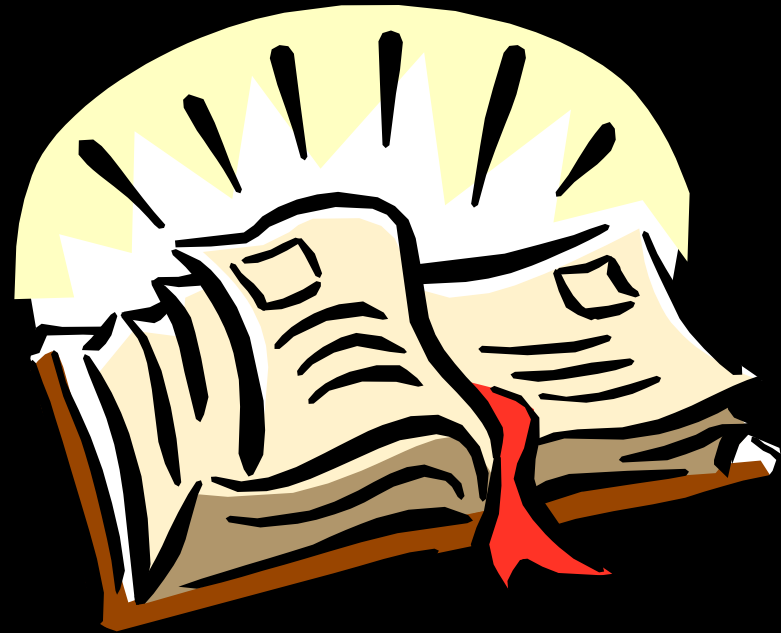
***Cornelius***

***Gospel to the Gentiles***



# *Scripture Text*

**Acts 10:1-ff**



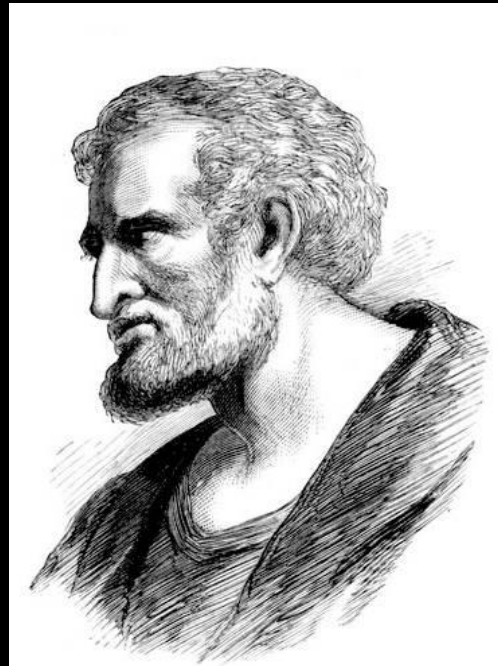
# Background

- **Cornelius**
  - **A Roman Centurion – Italian regiment**
  - **A gentile –**
    - **Jews believed – not saved**
    - **Not allowed in temple**
  - **A God fearer -**
    - **Attended synagogue**
    - **Generous and prayerful**
    - **Served God out of love**



# Background

- **Peter**
  - **Most prominent apostle**
  - **Still in Jewish mindset**
    - **Observant**
  - **Some movement**
    - **Samaritans**
    - **Stayed with a tanner**
    - **Still a Jewish worldview**
  - **God steps in**



# God's Intervention

- The vision – trance
  - Highest prophetic level
- The response – revulsion
  - Contrary to Lev 11
- The transition
  - God declares a change
- The repetition –
  - Significant Hebrew idiom
- The instruction –
  - Go and do not doubt



# Dealing With Contradictions

- **Does God contradict himself?**
  - Hosea
  - Elisha
  - New Covenant vs. Old
  - God never not contradicts His nature
- **How do we know if God is leading?**
  - The Word (study)
  - God's Character
  - Conviction/revelation
  - Providence
  - Mature Christian counsel





- Cornelius had a God-seeking heart
- Peter was a fully devoted Christ follower
- Cornelius received the truth
- God sealed his acceptance evidenced by the Holy Spirit
- Cornelius became the first Gentile convert
- This event paved the way for the gospel to go to the world