

# A Vision For The World

## (Acts 10:1-48)

### Introduction

A hallmark of the Christian journey is continued spiritual growth. That is, Jesus speaks into the life of one of His followers and it translates in to real transformation.

That transformation begins with the discovery of a truth, continues with the personal application of that truth, and translates to a changed lifestyle.

That process of transformation should be a life-long experience. We are never too old to grow. We are never too spiritual that growth shouldn't occur.

As a part of that growth process, occasionally, we will experience an "aha" moment. By "aha" moment, I am referring to the discovery of a truth that radically alters you. Those moments are occasional, but remarkable.

That is the case in the life of Peter, the apostle Acts 10. Jesus spoke into Peter's life and it changed him, changed his ministry, and changed the course of Christianity. It truly was an "aha" moment.

**Contextualize sermon text (Acts 10).** This passage occurs approximately 10 years after the Day of Pentecost. Peter has opened the door of faith to the Jews (Acts 2) and also the Samaritans (Acts 8). Now God will use him to bring the Gentiles to Christ.

God used a 1) vision and 2) an Italian soldier to shape the thinking of Peter.

**Contextualize this sermon.** We are journeying through Acts, watching the Hand Of God move and change lives.

### I. The Blindness of Peter's Orthodoxy

**Truth:** Because no one has all of the answers, we must remain teachable.

**A) The Historical Bias**

**B) The Unfulfilled Commission (1:8)**

(Peter's vision occurred approximately 10 years after Pentecost.)

**C) The Need For Change**

(As long as the well-respected, influential, and strong-will Peter held to his prejudices and presumptions the Gentiles would never be fully accepted as a part of the Lord's work in the eyes of the Jerusalem church.)

## **II. The Broadening of Peter's Vision**

**Truth:** When God speaks into your life, LISTEN!

**1) Freeing (v. 34-35)**

**2) Faith building (v. 36-43)**

## **III. The Breaking of Peter's Prejudice (v. 34-35)**

**Truth:** God's love is not reserved for a special few, but is extended to everyone.

**1) Is not earned (good works).**

**2) Is not deserved (religious heritage).**

**3) Is available to you (every nation).**

## **Conclusion**