**Two Descending Events About Seven Pivotal Chapters.**

(Acts 9 through 15).

**Chapters Ten Of Matthew And Acts**

1. Acts 9:3 -6,

2. Acts 10:9-16,

. START OF, PART1of2. .(1892words) . . . . .

**"Is Cornelius Saved Yet".**

The following is all Israelitish, all about Israel's doctrine and gospel, and includes both Jews and devout, God-fearing Gentiles seeking Israel's covenant blessing and benefits, according to **Acts 10:13-16, and 11:7-10, 10:39-48, 11:13-18.**

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As we go through this scriptures, let’s watch for four things.

(1) Important statements with impact,

(2) Events and conditions that prove to be uniquely Israel.

(3) The 12 “AS WELL AS” Cornelius in Acts 10:47,

(4) Which benefits belong to which gospel?

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**Acts 10:1**  ¶There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius,

a centurion of the band called the Italian band,

**Acts 10:2**  A **devout** man,

and one that **feared** God with all his house,

which gave much **alms** to the people,

and **prayed** to God alway.

**Acts 10:3**  He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day

an **angel of God** ...

In the scriptures, angels are associated with Israel. Angels are

"ministering spirits, sent forth to minister

**for THEM who SHALL BE HEIRS of salvation**".

That describes Israel, not members of the body of Christ who already are saved.

**Ephesians 2:5** Even when we were dead in sins,

hath quickened us together with Christ,

(by grace ye **are** saved;)

**Acts 10:3**  He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day

an **angel of God** coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

**Acts 10:4**  And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord?

And he said unto him,

Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

**Acts 10:5**  And now send men to Joppa,

and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

**Acts 10:6**  He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side:

he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

**Acts 10:6** brings up the topic of what Peter is to **say to Cornelius**. Lets look at some of the verses, in Acts, that discuss **what Peter was to say to Cornelius**.

**Acts 10:6, 10:21-22, 10:29, 10:32-33**.

**Acts 10:6** He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner,

whose house is by the sea side:

he shall TELL THEE WHAT thou oughtest to do.

**Acts 10:21** Then Peter went down to the men

which were sent unto him from Cornelius;

and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek:

WHAT IS THE CAUSE wherefore ye are come?

**Acts 10:22** And they said, Cornelius the centurion,

a **just** man,

and one that **feareth** God,

and **of good report** among all the nation of the Jews,

was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house,

and to hear words of thee.

**Acts 10:29** Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying,

as soon as I was sent for:

I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

**Acts 10:32** Send therefore to Joppa,

and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter;

he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side:

who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.

**Acts 10:33** Immediately therefore I sent to thee;

and thou hast well done that thou art come.

Now therefore are we all here present before God,

to hear **all things that are commanded thee of God**.

**Acts 10:7**  And when **the angel** which spake unto Cornelius was departed,

he called two of his household servants,

and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

**Acts 10:8**  And when he had declared all these things unto them,

he sent them to Joppa.

**Acts 10:9**  ¶On the morrow, as they went on their journey,

and drew nigh unto the city,

Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

**Acts 10:10**  And he became very hungry, and would have eaten:

but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

**Acts 10:11**  And saw heaven opened,

and a certain vessel descending unto him,

as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners,

and let down to the earth:

**Acts 10:12**  Wherein were all manner of

fourfooted beasts of the earth,

and wild beasts,

and creeping things,

and fowls of the air.

I don't yet understand all the significance of it, but there seem to be 2 descendings from heaven besides the coming to earth of the Lord Jesus Christ to Israel. There are 2 descendings from heaven with changes in the procedures and instructions dispensed from God to man:

1. **Acts 9:3 -6**, (Christ to Paul on the Damascus road,

"there shined round about him a light from heaven").

2. **Acts 10:9-16,11**, (a great sheet knit at the four corners,

and let down to the earth).

Let’s continue our reading in Acts 10:13.

**Acts 10:13**  And there came a voice to him, **Rise, Peter; kill, and eat**.

**Acts 10:14**  But Peter said, Not so, Lord;

for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

Peter had always followed **Leviticus 20:25**,

**Leviticus 20:25** Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean,

and between unclean fowls and clean:

and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl,

or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground,

which I have separated from you as **unclean**.

Let’s continue our reading in Acts 10:15.

**Acts 10:15**  And the voice spake unto him again the second time,

What **God hath cleansed**, that call not thou common.

**Acts 10:16**  This was done thrice: and **the vessel was received up again into heaven**.

**Acts 10:17**  Now while Peter doubted in himself **WHAT THIS VISION** which he had seen **SHOULD MEAN**, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house,

and stood before the gate,

**Acts 10:18**  And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

**Acts 10:19**  ¶While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him,

Behold, three men seek thee.

**Acts 10:20**  Arise therefore,

and get thee down,

and go with them,

doubting nothing:

**for I have sent them.**

Because of that verse,("**for I have sent them.")** we know that God, the Spirit (**Acts 10:19**) orchestrated the whole Cornelius event **for a reason, a purpose**.

**Acts 10:21**  Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius;

and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek:

**what is the cause** wherefore ye are come?

**Acts 10:22**  And they said, Cornelius the centurion,

a just man,

and one that feareth God,

and of good report among all the nation of the Jews,

was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house,

and to hear words of thee.

**Acts 10:23**  Then called he them in, and lodged them.

And on the morrow Peter went away with them,

and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

(There was interest among those where Peter stayed in Joppa.)

**Acts 10:24**  And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea.

And Cornelius waited for them,

and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

(In **Acts 10:27** those "kinsmen and near friends" of Cornelius are called "**MANY**")

**Acts 10:25**  And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him,

and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

**Acts 10:26**  But Peter took him up, saying, **Stand up**; I myself also am a man.

Many people today accept the praise of men, instead of pointing the praises to God.

**Acts 10:27**  And as he talked with him, he went in,

and found many that were come together.

Again, as a side note, back in **Acts 10:24**, the "**many**" are identified as the "**KINSMEN AND NEAR FRIENDS**" of Cornelius. However, some people have trouble seeing **that same thing** in Acts 13. "The Gentiles" in **Acts 13:42, 46, and 48** are **the same Gentiles** as identified earlier in the passage in **Acts 13:26.**

"Whosoever among you feareth God"

in **Acts 13:26** are the same Gentiles as the Gentiles who

"besought that these words might be

preached to them the next sabbath"

in **Acts 13:42.**

And, they are the same Gentiles that

"glorified the word of the Lord"

in **Acts 13:48**.

Look at the verses"

**Acts 13:42** And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue,

**the Gentiles** besought that

**these words might be preached to them the next sabbath**.

**Acts 13:46** Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said,

It was necessary that the word of God **should first have been spoken to you**:

but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life,

lo, we turn to **the Gentiles**.

**Acts 13:48** And when **the Gentiles** heard this,

they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord:

and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Some people want to make that say "ALL THE GENTILES", and they try to claim that Paul had been **SENT** to all the Gentiles at the time of his Acts 9 salvation experience. That is not scriptural.

There is no scripture that specifies that thought. Paul was first **SENT** in a dispensing of the gospel

"to the Jew first and also to the Greek".

**Acts 10:28**  And he said unto them,

Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to **keep company**,

or **come unto** one of **another nation**;

but God hath shewed me that I should **not call any man** **common** or **unclean**.

**Acts 10:29**  Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for:

I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

Peter still seems to be wondering what to say.

**Acts 10:30**  And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour;

and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house,

and, behold, **a man** stood before me in bright clothing,

The person identified here as "a man" is the same person identified earlier as “an angel" in":

**Acts 10:3** He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day

**an angel of God** coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

**Acts 10:7** And when **the angel which spake unto Cornelius** was departed,

he called two of his household servants,

and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

**Acts 10:22** And they said, Cornelius the centurion,

a just man, and one that feareth God,

and of good report among all the nation of the Jews,

was warned from God by **an holy angel** to send for thee into his house,

and to hear words of thee.

That confirms that in scripture, angels appear as men.

**Acts 10:31**  And said, Cornelius,

thy prayer is heard,

and **thine alms** are had in remembrance in the sight of God.

"Thine alms" are a work, and part of Israel's doctrine, not that of the body of Christ.

**Acts 10:32**  Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter;

he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side:

who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.

**Acts 10:33**  Immediately therefore I sent to thee;

and thou hast well done that thou art come.

Now therefore are we all here present before God,

to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

**Acts 10:34**,  ¶Then Peter opened his mouth, and said,

Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

**Acts 10:35**,  But in every nation

he that **FEARETH HIM**, **and** **WORKETH RIGHTEOUSNESS**,

**is accepted with him.**

Again, working righteousness for acceptance with God is Israel's doctrine, not that of the body of Christ.

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Although Israel had already FALLEN, Israel's program was not yet fully shut down. Israel was in a diminishing process from Acts 7 through Acts 28. Paul's program, the body of Christ, was already in operation, being preached, starting at latest by Acts 13. Therefore, for a brief time, both programs were in operation at the same time. Christ SENT Paul to provoke Israel to emulate the salvation that he preached during a dispensation of the gospel.

The gospel that a person heard and believed determined which program they were in, and which benefits they received. A gospel involves news of how to acquire the promised remedy for a specific need named in that gospel. The kingdom promises to believers in Israel's kingdom program were different from the promise of life to believers in Paul's program, the body of Christ, whether they believed Paul's gospel during a brief dispensation of the gospel of Christ (**First Corinthians 9:17-18**), or during the dispensation of the grace of God still operating today (**Ephesians 3:1-9**).

The Acts 10 Cornelius event is quite likely Israel's last event before becoming "not my people" (**Hosea 1:9-10**). It shows the way things would have been if there had not been a break in Israel's history and their favor with God. It also shows the way things will be in the resumption of Israel's history, after the catching up of the body of Christ.

**Matthew 25:31-46** is a parable telling, in verses 34-40 that the Gentile nations that blessed Israel would be blessed of God.

**Matthew 25:34**  Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand,

Come, ye blessed of my Father,

inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

**Matthew 25:35**  For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat:

I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink:

I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

**Matthew 25:36**  Naked, and ye clothed me:

I was sick, and ye visited me:

I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

**Matthew 25:37**  Then shall the righteous answer him, saying,

Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee?

or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

**Matthew 25:38**  When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in?

or naked, and clothed thee?

**Matthew 25:39**  Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison,

and came unto thee?

**Matthew 25:40**  And the King shall answer and say unto them,

Verily I say unto you,

Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,

ye have done it unto me.

Another step in Israel's diminishing was in Acts 15 when Peter talks about his Cornelius encounter, and agrees that Israel will stop evangelizing and leave that to Paul, and the churches of the Gentiles that Paul founded.

**Galatians 2:9** And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars,

perceived the grace that was given unto me,

they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship;

that we should go unto the heathen,

and **THEY UNTO THE CIRCUMCISION**.

That **Acts 15** agreement told about in **Galatians 2:9**, could well have been Peter's use of the **keys of the kingdom** to abort the 70th week of Daniel, and to make that first year of it to be "the acceptable year of the Lord".

Israel's program had to have already ended by the time of Peter's Acts 15 agreement that Paul told about in **Galatians 2:9**.

As you read Acts 6 through Acts 11, it becomes evident that the 3 major events in those chapters all occurred in rapid sequence, very nearly simultaneously.

**Acts 11:27** through **11:30** was the first of 10 times that God had Paul get the body of Christ churches to give to feed the poor saints in Jerusalem. By the time of **Acts 11:27**, God already challenged the body of Christ to feed the church of God in Jerusalem. Here is a list of the 10 times Paul has the body of Christ feed the church of God in Jerusalem.

**AID, RELIEF** (10 events referenced in order): **Acts 11:27-30, 12:25, Acts 14:21-23,**

**Galatians 2:9-10, First Thessalonians 5:14, First Corinthians 16:1-4, 3-18,**

**Second Corinthians 8:4, 9:1, 10, 12, 13, (8:1 to 9:15) Romans 15:25-27, Acts 20:17,28,33-35,**

**First Timothy 2:8 through 3:16, Titus 1:5, 7.**

That means Israel's program must have already ceased its progress through Daniel's 70 week prophecy.

Being immediately before Agabus's prophecy in Syrian Antioch, the Acts 10 through 11 Cornelius event is the most likely candidate for being the change from **being Israel's 70th week**, to **being Israel's "acceptable year of the Lord"** after Israel failed to receive their Messiah and His kingdom out of heaven.

Israel's "acceptable year of the Lord" had ended and Israel's history stopped occurring until the fullness of the Gentiles be come into the body of Christ that the Holy Spirit is baptizing believers into today.

**Acts 10:36,**  The word which **God sent UNTO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL**,

preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

**Acts 10:37**,  That word, I say, **ye know**,

which was **published throughout all Judaea**, and began from Galilee,

**after the baptism which John preached**;

**Acts 10:38,**  How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth

with the Holy Ghost and with power:

**who went about doing good,**

**and healing all that were oppressed of the devil;**

**for God was with him.**

**Acts 10:39,**  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**:

**Acts 10:40,**  Him **GOD RAISED UP** the third day,

and shewed him openly;

**Acts 10:41,**  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.**

Is there any doubt that Peter is talking about **THE EARTHLY MINISTRY** OF JESUS?

**Acts 10:42,**  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 10:43,**  To him give **ALL THE PROPHETS** witness,

that **through HIS NAME whosoever believeth in him**

**shall receive REMISSION of sins.**

The body of Christ gets forgiveness, but Israel only got remission until the return of Christ to blot out Israel's sins according to **Acts 3:19-21**.

**Acts 10:44,**  ¶While Peter yet spake these words,

**the Holy Ghost fell** on all them which heard the word.

**Acts 10:45,**  And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished,

as many as came with Peter,

because that **on THE GENTILES also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

**Acts 10:46**  For they heard them **speak with tongues**, and magnify God.

Then answered Peter,

**Acts 10:47,**  Can any man forbid water,

that **these should not be baptized**,

which have **received the Holy Ghost AS WELL AS WE?**

Israel's manifestations were upon Cornelius and friends. This has nothing to do with the body of Christ.

**Acts 10:48,**  And he commanded them

to be baptized **in the name** of the Lord.

Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

**Acts 11:1,**  ¶And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea

heard that **THE GENTILES** had **also** received the word of God.

**Acts 11:2,**  And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem,

they that were of the circumcision contended with him,

**Acts 11:3,**  Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised,

and **didst eat with them**.

**Acts 11:4,**  But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning,

and EXPOUNDED IT BY ORDER UNTO THEM, saying,

**Acts 11:5,**  I was in the city of Joppa praying:

and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend,

as it had been a great sheet, let **down from heaven** by four corners;

and it came even to me:

**Acts 11:6,**  Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes,

I considered, and saw **fourfooted beasts** of the earth,

and **wild beasts**, and **creeping things**, and **fowls** of the air.

**Acts 11:7,**  And I heard a voice saying unto me, **Arise, Peter; slay and EAT**.

**Acts 11:8,**  But I said, Not so, Lord:

for **nothing common or unclean hath at any time**

**entered into my mouth**.

**Acts 11:9,**  But the voice answered me again from heaven,

**WHAT GOD HATH CLEANSED,**

**THAT CALL NOT THOU COMMON.**

**Acts 11:10,**  And this was done three times:

and all were drawn up again into heaven.

**Acts 11:11,**  And, behold, immediately there were

three men already come unto the house where I was,

sent from Caesarea unto me.

**Acts 11:12,**  And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting.

Moreover **these six brethren** accompanied me,

and we entered into the man's house:

**Acts 11:13,**  And he shewed us how

**he had seen an angel in his house**,

which stood and said unto him,

Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;

**Acts 11:14,**  Who shall **tell thee words**,

whereby thou and all thy house **SHALL BE (future tense) saved**.

**Acts 11:15,**  And as I began to speak,

**the Holy Ghost fell on them**,

**AS ON us AT THE BEGINNING**.

Israel's manifestations were upon Cornelius and friends. This has nothing to do with the body of Christ.

**Acts 11:16,**  Then remembered I the word of the Lord,

how that he said, John indeed baptized with water;

but **YE shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost**.

That was in:

**Acts 1:5**For John truly baptized with water;

**but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost** not many days hence.

**Acts 11:17,**  Forasmuch then as **God gave them**

**THE LIKE GIFT as he did unto us**,

(Israelites)

who **believed on the Lord Jesus Christ**;

what was I, that I could withstand God?

**Acts 11:18**,  When they heard these things,

they held their peace, and glorified God, saying,

Then hath God also **to the Gentiles granted REPENTANCE UNTO LIFE**.

"Repentance unto life"! Before, it had been, "shall be saved". This looks very much like the Unction and the Anointing that First John tells about. Peter and the Cornelius event might well be God setting up the last instructions in the Bible for the tribulation saints after the catching up of the body of Christ.

THEN, Peter stops talking, and Paul reports about his own ministry among the Gentiles (not "all the Gentiles", but "the Gentiles". The Greeks fill that qualification of being "the Gentiles".

**Acts 15:12**  Then all the multitude kept silence,

and **GAVE AUDIENCE TO BARNABAS AND PAUL, DECLARING**

what miracles and wonders God had wrought **AMONG** THE GENTILES by them.

Not in Israel.

Acts 2:5-11.

**Acts 15:13**  And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying,

Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

**Acts 15:14**  Simeon hath declared how God **at the first** did visit the Gentiles,

to take out of them a people for his name.

(not with Abraham, but at first with Cornelius)

**Acts 15:15**  And to this agree **the words of THE PROPHETS**; as it is written,

James quotes **Amos 9:11** about the future kingdom out of heaven.

**Acts 15:16**  After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David,

which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:

**Acts 15:17**  That the residue of men

To me, the residue of men, means all those left on earth after the catching up of the body of Christ.

**Acts 15:17**  That the residue of men might seek after the Lord,

and ALL THE GENTILES, **UPON WHOM MY NAME IS CALLED**,

saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

Look at this scripture confirming that those are Gentiles seeking God through Israel's covenants and doctrine.

**Romans 15:10**  “And again he saith,

Rejoice, ye Gentiles, WITH HIS PEOPLE.”

**Acts 15:18**  Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

**Acts 15:19**  Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them,

which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

From these scriptures in this study, we can see that the Cornelius event was **NOT** a widening of Israel’s impact to include the Gentiles. But rather, it was a further diminishing of Israel’s unique, Jews-only kingdom offer of that kingdom which had been promised, and is yet to come, after God finishes offering his salvation by his grace to all those who will receive it as an undeserved gift without respect of persons or nationalities. Fallen, diminishing Israel was getting nearer and nearer to their blinding and casting away.

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