

44-Acts-Pt10-Transcript

these are real worms there are 40 of them got to get them down and show me an empty mouth don't think about what you're doing just chew it and get it down 40 mealworms service jumping up and down once again like in season 1 Ciara already spinning them up in the sand Tina strapped up well greetings and welcome back to our Wednesday night Bible study and I certainly hope that you were disgusted by that opening clip as I was the question that I have for you is why what's wrong with eating these creatures all different types of creatures and in fact some people would say nothing and they get their justification from that from the very chapter that we're gonna be studying this evening Acts chapter 10 as you know that this is a chapter that deals with what people believe the issue of clean and unclean meats and I know that people join us on this study from different time zones different parts of the world so maybe you're having breakfast or lunch or dinner but if you're planning on having pork or seafood at ask you know

pause step away from the table and focus on this study because we're gonna prove to you categorically that chapter 10 of Acts does not authorize the eating of unclean meats unclean food so we'll do that and then afterwards we're going to invite you to participate in our chat afterwards if you disagree with us so I'm sure this is a controversial topic but we welcome discussion and certainly we welcome discussion from Christians Christians are under attack we don't need to be attacking each other we need to figure out how we can work together

and I think as long as you have a high view of Scripture as we do we certainly welcome the opportunity to interact with you so stay tuned let's get through this chapter and then let's have some discussion afterwards we'll open with prayer our Heavenly Father we praise you and we thank you God for your word we pray father that you'll give us hearts that are open to your word open to correction

and that really just want to know what you think on matters and then that we will conform ourselves to your thoughts into your will we praise you Father we thank you for the opportunity that we have to study acts chapter 10 and ask for your blessing in our understanding we pray in Jesus Holy Name Amen so as I mentioned the Acts chapter 10 is this chapter that focuses on Peters vision and the scripture that people point to a beginning in verse 10 that Peter became very hungry and would have eaten but while they made ready they were preparing the meal he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and a certain vessel descending unto him as it had been a great sheet net at the four corners and let down to the earth wherein all manner noticed that all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things and fowls of the air and there came a voice to him rise Peter kill and eat and so he has this vision there's all these creatures in the sheets that that in the sheet that's being left down from heaven and and the instruction to him is to rise kill anything and eat and we use this scripture to justify the eating of things like bacon and ham and and various meats that are that are

pronounced unclean by the scriptures and yet because of our love for them and we really do have a love for them here you'll see this bacon eating contest and quite quite a love that we have for bacon and and trying to pull people away from bacon this is the issue it's not that we want to eat whatever we want to eat because there are many foods that if somebody were to put something like this on your plate you'd recoil in horror in some cases we have people catching dogs in the street cutting them up and serving them as food and again most of us would recoil in horror but why why would we recoil in horror about eating a dog but we have no issue when it comes to eating a pig or a squid or or an off the octopus well let's go back to the scripture and and be faithful to the text so first of all all Scripture is given for inspiration and for instruction if we look now at Isaiah 66 notice this is a prophecy of the end time the time just before us and beginning in verse 15 Isaiah prophesized and says for behold the Lord will come with fire like God is patient and he is just being as patient as possible but there comes a time when it's over and when he comes he's not coming as a lamb he's coming as a lion he's coming with fire he's coming with judgment so Isaiah is prophesying of the second coming of Christ the return of Christ and he's going to come with fire and with his chariots like a whirlwind to render his anger with fury there's just gonna be so much filth and uncleanness on the earth that when Christ comes he's coming with fury and his rebuke with flames of fire for by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh and there's another

scripture in Zechariah that says he's gonna gather all flesh in Jerusalem and he's gonna plead with them there over his people and so when he comes he's coming with fury and he's gonna plead with all flesh and the slain of the Lord shall be many unfortunately there were going to be many that are going to fight against Jesus Christ when he returns and I wish it were not so but it is so this is the heart of man and so there that the slain of the Lord shall be many who will be included in these this category of people that they're called many that Christ will be angry with that he will slay who will be included in that they that sanctify themselves and purify themselves that so they're not looking to Christ for purity they're not looking to God for sanctification they've got some kind of weird religion and weird I'd strange ideas ideas that don't come from the Bible where they're sanctifying themselves and they believe they're holy and Christ is saying he's coming with fury and they're not part of his his anointed those that he's sanctifying they sanctified themselves and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the men's notice this the slain of the Lord shall be many and what are they doing they're eating swine's flesh eating swine's flesh and the abomination and the mouse they shall be consumed together says the Lord I know their works and their thoughts and it shall come that I will gather all nations and tongues and they shall come and see my glory so if you're using Acts chapter 10 as the sole scripture to say hey I I believe God authorizes the eating of unclean meats I'm gonna show you why his is 66 and say that God doesn't change God is not schizophrenic he's consistent

and when he returns he's going to punish many the slain of the Lord the rebels they're going to be many rebels on the earth he says in another place when the Son of Man returns will he find faith on the earth indicating that faith will be minimal the boy the faithful will be few and so he's coming with fury and then I challenge you to say do you really want to be arrogantly saying I can eat whatever I want when the scripture makes it very clear God consider these things an abomination and there's a reason why we don't have to understand all the details but we need to know that God says that unclean meat is unfit for human consumption consumption now we are reading Acts chapter 10 tonight but but through this study we keep emphasizing the importance of context the importance of understanding what is the purpose of this book now remember that acts and Luke will go to go together Luke is volume 1 acts is volume 2 and Luke is writing these two volumes to a specific into individual for a specific purpose and notice in Luke wandering just to remind you that he says here as he's opening up his first volume for as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us even as they delivered them unto us which from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word it seemed good to me also so Lucas saying and I know that a lot of people have already written about Christ but it seemed good to me also having had perfect understanding of all things so Luke is a physician a professional man had perfect understanding and so he thought you know I need to write this down and and and to write it from the

very beginning to write unto you in order most excellent Theophilus so Luke and acts are written specifically to this individual Theophilus who we believe to be Paul's lawyer Paul's defense counsel and so he's trying to give this this this professional one professional to another giving him all the background so that he can successfully defend the Apostle Paul now when he begins the second volume he says the former treatise referring to Luke I made both Theophilus of all that Jesus began both to do and teach meaning that now in action in the book of Acts in the second volume Jesus is continuing to do and to teach through the power of His Holy Spirit so he empowers the church with His Holy Spirit and we're seeing that all the things that Jesus did in Luke in the gospel he's repeating in the book of Acts but he's doing it through the church so and he did this until the day in which he was taken up after that through the holy spirit he gave Commandments the Apostles whom he had chosen and then in verse eight it says Christ is telling them yes the kingdom is coming it's not for you to know when but you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth and this is the critical point now so right up to Acts chapter eight we were watching as through the Holy Spirit the faithful church the Apostles and the Brethren were faithfully declaring the gospel of Christ - they were there were faithful witnesses first in Jerusalem then in Judea then in Samaria which was Acts chapter 8 and then from there to the ends of the

earth and that to the ends of the earth has everything to do with the Apostle Paul who was then introduced to us in Acts chapter 9 and I remember last week when we were doing Acts chapter 9 Luke goes to his real detail to give us how Paul was struck down on the road to Damascus and how he encountered the Lord Jesus and from there he was converted and then he said about immediately to begin preaching the gospel of Christ as a witness a faithful witness and then all of a sudden Luke switches back to Peter and I remember last week I was puzzled and I said I wasn't really sure why Luke did that that instead of why why didn't you talk about Peter first and then transition it make a clean transition to Paul and then from Acts chapter 9 just begin focusing on Paul and how Paul takes the Ministry of the gospel to the whole to the ends of the earth but I think the answer is here in Acts chapter 10 and I'll come back to that I think that Luke is very deliberate and what he's showing to Theophilus and and he's showing basically that Peter is getting a vision and that's why it's gonna be so clear to us that chapter 10 has nothing to do with eating unclean meat so let's let's get into it then so remember Acts chapter 9 we ended that the transition back to Peter and Peter had raised Dorcas from the dead because the the widows were so grief-stricken by her death Peter raised her from the dead and then it says here in chapter 42 of Acts 9 it was known throughout all Joppa that he raised her from the dead and many believed in the Lord and it came to pass that he stayed many days in Joppa with 1 Simon a Tanner and I just find this remarkable that that Simon the Tanner it

gets honorable mention in the scripture and we have brethren who who just have this gift of service this gift of hospitality and no doubt Simon had this gift that that Peter spent a lot of time we don't know how long but it says many days and clearly Simon was one of these brethren that just has this gift of hospitality because he mentioned several times but so the chapter 9 ends with Peter continuing the work of the Holy Spirit and then lodging with Simon the Tanner has brethren in this area of Joppa are being converted now we come into chapter 10 and in chapter 10 were introduced to Cornelius there was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius a Centurion of the band called the Italian band he was a devout man so he was it's an Italian that's important he's a Gentile and he's a commander of a hundred men in an armory the Centurion but he's a devout man and one that feared God with all his house and it's important for us to know that at this time there were Gentiles who were fatigued with Jew with Roman paganism and they were attracted to the Jewish religion and so they were known as god-fearers they basically practice Judaism but they were not Jews and then they were not allowed in the temple and they they were sort of at arm's length but they were respected as god-fearers and so Cornelius is one of these god-fearers and these make up the the beginning of the Gentile church that that many of the things that the Jews took for granted the God fear is already new and so they came into the church understanding for example clean and unclean meats in the Sabbath etc he thought in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God

coming in to him and saying to him
Cornelius and when he looked on him he
was afraid and said what is it Lord and
he said unto Him your prayers and your
arms are come up for a memorial before
God

now send men to Joppa and call for one
Simon whose surname is Peter he lodges
with one Simon a Tanner so again Simon
the Tanner gets honorable mention for
his hospitality Peter is staying with
him whose houses by the seaside he shall
tell you what you ought to do and when
the angel which spoke unto Cornelius was
departed he Cornelius called two of his
household servants a devout soldier and
a devout soldier of them that waited on
him continually and when he had declared
all these things unto them he sent them
to Joppa and notice now this is the
exact pattern that we saw in Acts
chapter 9 where Paul had a vision and
then God gave

provision a complimentary vision to us
and then they came together able to
compare notes and verify here we're
going to see a vision that's given to
Cornelius and a complimentary vision is
given to Peter and so they can come
together and see that Wow God they under
confirmed the operation of God God that
never works in a way where he just gives
a vision to one man no witnesses and
then forces us to believe him he always
gives evidence and support for what he's
showing on the morrow verse 9 as they
went on their journey so these men are
now going to Joppa to find Peter as they
went on their journey and drew near unto
the city Peter went up upon the housetop
so they're on their way they've got the
Cornelius had this vision he explained
it to them they're now on their way and
now God confirms the vision to Cornelius

by giving a vision to Peter and so he went up on the housetop to pray about the sixth hour and he became very hungry and he would have eaten so he would have eaten meaning he's starving kind of like he'd have eaten anything he's so hungry but while they made ready so again the hospitality of Simon the Tanner they're preparing a very good meal I'm sure so you know it's not instant food it takes time to prepare and they're there making ready

so he's hungry they're making ready he falls into a trance and he saw heaven opened and a certain vessel descending unto Him as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners so that's again that vision that he saw and led down to the earth where in all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things and fowls of the air and that came a voice to him rise Peter kill and eat and this rise Peter kill and eat is what Christians traditional Christians used to say see everything is clean what what God has pronounced clean don't call unclean let's let's keep to the context and and in fact what many people will do as well is combine this with Matthew 15 where Jesus himself said it's not that which goes into the mouth that the file but that which comes out of the mouth that's what files the man and again they'll take this out of context so let's deal with this Matthew 15 verse 11 first and then let's come back to Acts chapter 10 and we'll deal at one of the time so Matthew 15 does not support Acts chapter 10 to say that Peter can eat anything let's look at Matthew 15 in context beginning in verse 1 there came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees which were of Jerusalem saying why do you

attract what why do your disciples
transgress the tradition of the elders
for they wash not their hands when they
eat bread so this is the issue Christ's
disciples are not going through this
ceremonial washing of hands before they
eat and the Pharisees are sticklers over
this so they're looking down on Christ's
disciples and the challenging Christ and
saying you know how can you call
yourself holy when your disciples don't
wash their hands when they eat bread but
he answered unto them and said why do
you also transgress the commandment of
God by your tradition for God commanded
saying honour your father and mother and
he that curseth father or mother let him
die the death that's what the
commandment says but you say whosoever
shall say to his father or mother it is
a gift that rather than honoring their
parents they're just giving the gift to
the Pharisees by whatsoever you might be
profited by me so instead of you
benefitting from me as a parent I'm
gonna give this to the church or to the
to the Pharisees and honor not his
father or his mother he shall be free so
you're saying the exact opposite of what
the commandment said the commandment
says he shall die you're saying he shall
be free and we have churches today you
know it's quite amazing we have churches
today whoo-hoo contra man and the Word
of God that God says honor your father
and mother and we have people who are
saying if your father and mother are not
in my church you can't talk to them and
people follow them and they're actually
countermanding that with the Word of God
they're saying if you dishonor your
mother and father
you'll live when the commandment says if
you dishonor your mother

father you'll die and so it's nothing
new so here he says that he'll but in
this way by contradicting the
commandment you have made the
commandment of God of none effect by
your tradition you you're challenging me
that we don't follow your tradition but
your tradition actually countermands the
commandments of God you hypocrites well
did Isaiah prophesied of you saying this
people draws near to me with their
mouths and honors me with their lips but
their heart is far from me but in vain
do they worship Me teaching for
doctrines the commandments of men
so so you you just have the commandments
of men and not the commandments of God
and he called the multitude now the
multitude are not Gentiles the multitude
are Jews and so he calls the multitude
of Jews together they know the
difference between clean and unclean
meat and they're not about to eat
unclean meat and he said to them hear
and understand he speaks again
specifically of the traditions and their
tradition is you have to wash your hands
in a ceremonial way before you can eat
bread and he's saying you know what your
traditions also say you don't have to
honor your mother and father and the
commandment says if you don't do that
you'll you'll die but you'll say you say
if you can't if you don't do that you'll
be set free so the focus here that
Christ has is speaking to Jews about the
traditions and so he goes on to say it
is not here and understand not that
which goes into the mouth defiles a man
but that which comes out of the mouth in
other words the traditions so these
these Pharisees is quite amazing these
Pharisees with their traditions who
think they're so holy these traditions

are actually defiling them that's what that's what Christ wants the multitude to understand which what comes other the mouth that defiles them then came his disciples and said unto him do you know that the Pharisees were offended after they heard this saying but he answered and said to them basically you know what they're not of the true body of God's people every plan which my Heavenly Father

has not planted shall be rooted up so so all these people who are preaching and teaching contradictory to God's law eventually they'll be routed up we saw that in Isaiah 66 that God is going to come with fury and and he's going to challenge all the hypocrites and destroy the hypocrites so don't worry about these people let them alone they be blind leaders of the blind and if the blind lead the blind blind both shall fall into the ditch then answered Peter and said unto Him declare unto us this parable and Jesus said are you also yet without understanding don't you yet understand that what enters in at the mouth goes into the belly and is cast out into the drop draught but those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart and they defile the man for out of the heart proceed evil thoughts murders adulteries fornications thefts false witnesses blasphemies these are the things which defile a man but to eat with unwashed hands the file's not a man solo verse 20 makes it really crystal clear this is what Jesus Christ is talking about when he says that the things that go into the mouth they don't defile the man he's talking to Jews the multitude gather he's talking to the Jews now he's talking to his disciples there's no

question that he's saying to them I'll go ahead and eat whatever you want he's just talking to them about the traditions of the Pharisees and that they're allowing them that they would never eat without washing their hands first and Christ is saying look to eat with unwashed hands this doesn't defile the man it's what's in their heart that's what's defiling them so let's come back now having knocked that on the head that now what what is Acts chapter 10 talking about so they came a voice to Peter saying rise Peter kill and eat how did Peter respond so again if Matthew 15 was all about you know hey eat whatever you want then Peter would have done that but he didn't so here in extra chapter 14 10 for its first 14 Peter says no way no way so the Lord is telling him go ahead and eat whatever you want no way not so Lord for I have never eaten anything that is common or clean never so this is the Peter remember John with the foot washing so if we go to John 13 he rises from pub suffer that is Christ and laid aside his garments and took a towel and girded himself after that He pours water into a basin and began to wash the disciples feet and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded and so all the disciples are kind of wondering what's going on here but they don't react the way Peter does look how Peter reacts then he comes to Peter to Simon Peter and Peter says to him Lord do you wash my feet Jesus says so he's like he's shocked and he and Peter's very impulsive and he says what's on his mind and he acts immediately and Jesus answered and said what I do you do not know now but you shall know after Peter

says to him you shall never wash my feet
so you know this is out of the question
jesus answered him and said if I do not
wash you you have no part with me
so Peter answered Simon Peter says unto
Him Lord not my feet only but also my
hands and my head so you really get a
sense of Peters character this is the
same individual that cut off the
soldiers here when they came to arrest
Christ this is the same individual that
we saw in chapter one who again before
he was before he received the Holy
Spirit who impulsively says we've got to
replace Judas we've got to find another
he's a man of action and immediate
action and responds immediately so if
Christ had said to him hey you can eat
whatever you want back in Matthew 15 he
had have been eating everything because
you see the way he reacts he's all in or
all out and so he would have been all in
instead he says not so Lord so again
coming back to Acts chapter 10 verse 14
Peter says no way I have never eaten
anything that is common or unclean and
the voice spoke to him again the second
time and says what God has cleansed you
shall not call common this was done
three times so he like each time is like
no way no way no way and
saying look what I call clean you don't
call common or unclean this was done
three times and the vessel was finally
taken up again into heaven now so the
vision is over happened three times
Peter's like arguing with the Lord
saying I've never done I can't do this
I've never done it now while Peter
doubted in himself what the vision which
he had seen should mean and remember
he's starving I don't know if you've
ever gone shopping when you're starving
but the advice is when it's time to go

grocery shopping go shopping on a full stomach because if you go shopping on an empty stomach you buy all kinds of crazy things or or if you've missed lunch and you've got it you eat anything even you go against your diet here he's starving and he wouldn't he's like he'd eat anything and the vision comes and says Killiney and he's like no way three times no way and now it's all over and he's still doubting what could this mean it's like he's very clear what it doesn't mean it doesn't mean that I can go out and eat whatever I want you know as we say that there's a reason why pigs are called pigs and and God there are scavengers of the earth there are these vacuum cleaners that are designed to clean the earth and and and they're not fit for human consumption God refers to them as an abomination they're not human food and so Peter is not doubting he's very clear about what it doesn't mean and so he's doubting in himself what the vision could mean because he knows what it doesn't mean

behold the men which were sent for Cornelius had made so while he's doubting now again these two visions are coming together while he's doubting the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house that Simon the Tanner and stood before the gate so he's wondering what's going on here now the men are at the gate and called and asked whether Simon which was surnamed Peter was staying there while Peter thought on the vision he's still trying to figure it out like he knows what it doesn't mean he's trying to figure it out the spirit said to him behold three men asked for you arise therefore and go down and go with them and doubt nothing so this is like do not

doubt whatever they're going to
for I have sent them then Peter went
down to the men which were sent unto him
from Cornelius and said Behold I am he
whom you're looking for what is the
cause why you've come
and they said Cornelius the Centurion a
just man one that fears God and of good
report among all the nation of the Jews
so he's a Gentile but he has a good
rapport with the Jews he was warned from
God by a holy angel to send for you into
his house and to hear words of you so he
wants you to come and he what he wants
to hear from you then called he them in
and lodged them and on the morrow Peter
went away with them and certain brethren
from Joppa accompanied him and the
morrow after they entered into Caesarea
and Cornelius waited for them and had
called together his kinsmen and near
friends so obviously a man of great
influence and so he brings his household
and friends together and as Peter was
coming in Cornelius met him so he's so
excited he knows that this is the
apostle of God Cornelius met him and
fell down at his feet and worshiped him
this is the holy man of God he is so
happy that this man has come to his
house and as he talked with him I'm
sorry I'm sorry verse 26 is really
important but Peter took him up saying
stand up I myself also I'm a man and and
notice this is a really critical verse
there is no man of God that welcomes
worship of himself there is no man of
God that aggrandize is himself no true
man of God every true man of God points
everyone to the Father and will it will
not accept honor does not seek honour
from men and so Peters like stand up get
up
this is awful I myself also am a man and

he taught and as he talked with him he went in and found many that were come together so he's put the whole crowd together and he said unto them you 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 so notice this right that in verse 24 it's not just Cornelius Cornelius is waiting and he calls together his kinsmen and his friends all Gentiles so there's this quite significant crowd Peter now comes to this crowd and he says in verse 28 he said unto them you know how that it's an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company or to come unto one of another nation that basically as a Gentile so Gentiles means other nations so to come to this come in the midst of these Gentiles this is unlawful but God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean notice he doesn't say but God has shown me that I should not call any animal common or unclean so while we're all here let's kind of break out the pig the monkey the mouse and the rat and let's have a great party eating all these wonderful things that God has shown me that it's okay to eat it's not any animal it's any man God has shown and now I figured out what the vision means I mean what it didn't mean I now I understand what it means God has shown me not to call you common or unclean therefore came I unto you without doubting as soon as I was sent for I asked therefore for what intent you have sent for me and Cornelius said here's the counter vision now the complementary vision four days ago I was fasting until this hour again a very righteous very devout man but a Gentile and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house and behold a man

stood before me in bright clothing and said Cornelius your prayer is heard and your arms are had in remembrance in the sight of God send therefore to Joppa and call there Simon whose surname is Peter he is lodged in the house of one Simon a Tanner again Simon this very hospitable man keeps getting honorable mention he's staying with Simon the Tanner by the seaside who when he comes shall speak unto you immediately therefore I sent unto you and you have done well that you are

now therefore we are all here present before God to hear all things that are commanded you of God so you can see very clearly now what I said earlier was last week I was puzzled by the fact that Luke in writing to Theophilus takes the gospel all the way through Samaria and then he introduces Paul who is now going to take it to the ends of the world to do all the Gentiles after introducing Paul he suddenly transitions back to Peter and it just seemed a bit odd to me when I was reading chapter 9 why did he do that and I thought you know it's just maybe just to show the awfulest that the Holy Spirit is still working in the other apostles in addition to working in Paul and that Paul's ministry is part of this whole church movement but in reading chapter 10 it now becomes clear to me that the reason he went back to Peter is to show Theophilus that the preaching of the gospel to Gentiles is completely authorized by the Holy Spirit because remember when Paul was converted he didn't go to Jerusalem he went into Arabia and he was in Arabia and Damascus for three years learning the gospel from Christ and teaching the gospel and so here what we see is the authorization to take the gospel out of

Judea and Samaria and into the Gentile world we see it by the Holy Spirit through Peter so this is happening in parallel while Paul is doing his ministry and I think what Luke is making very very clear is the gospel is authorized to go to the Gentiles and so when we read chapter 10 in context it's got nothing to do with eating pork nothing to do with eating ham sandwiches or squid or octopus or mice or rats or dogs nothing at all those those meats are unclean they're not fit for human consumption so we must eat clean meat as authorized by the scripture but what it is showing is that we must not be prejudiced or the Jews must not be prejudiced against other nations that God has pronounced all men clean once they repent and see the Holy Spirit so let's continue here in verse 34 then Peter opened his mouth and said of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons so this is why when Paul meets him three years later and they spend two weeks together Peter is totally on board with what Paul is doing because he sees the authorization himself personally with this vision but in every nation not just the Israel nation or the Israelite nations in every nation he that feareth him and worketh Ness is accepted by him the word which God sent unto the children of Israel preaching peace by Jesus Christ he is Lord of all and let's just we're gonna do chapter 11 next week but just to reconcile this again to really put a fine point on this what is Acts chapter 10 all about look what he says in Acts chapter 11 beginning in verse 5 where he recounts what happened I was in the city of Joppa praying 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 upon the which when I had fastened my eyes I considered the saw four-footed beasts of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things and fowls of the air and I heard a voice saying unto me arise Peter slay and eat but I said not no way no way no way

not so Lord for nothing common or clean has that or unclean has at any time entered into my mouth so again clearly what Christ was covering in Matthew 15 was not the the authorization of eating abomination abominable food meats and otherwise he would have done it he's a kind of guy that he's all in or all out so here he said I've never

but the voice answered me again from heaven what God has cleansed you shall not call common notice it's what God has cleansed so what did he clean and cleanse did he clean these meats well here you made a very clear in chapter 10 he's gonna reiterate here in chapter 11 and this was done three times and all were drawn up again into heaven and behold immediately at the same time there were three men already come into the house where I was sent from says areia unto me so the timing of this is perfect so Cornelius gets this vision he then dispatches these three men the God knows exactly how long it's gonna take for them to come as they're approaching the house Peter gets this vision the sheet then goes up as he's wondering what the vision is the men are knocking on the door the Gentile men and the spirit bade me go with them and don't doubt otherwise he would have said I can't keep company with you well the

spirit told him go with these Gentiles
moreover these six brethren accompanied
me so he went with six Jewish brethren
and we entered into the Gentile man's
house and he showed 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 I just
loved this how how God always gives at
least two witnesses to his operations
who shall tell you words whereby you and
all your house shall be saved so he was
really that's why he was so anxious to
hear the words because these words were
the words of salvation and as I began to
speak the Holy Spirit fell on them as it
did on us at the beginning remember in
acts 2 when the Holy Spirit was given to
that to the Jews and they began to speak
in tongues and that was the day of
Pentecost while here it's like a
Pentecost for the Gentiles so he's
saying you know I began to tell them the
words of salvation and while I was
speaking the Holy Spirit fell on them
the way it did on us at the beginning
then remembered I the word of the Lord
so then I remembered how he said John
indeed baptized with water but you shall
be baptized with the Holy Spirit so I
mean I'm realizing now I'm speaking and
they're being baptized with the Holy
Spirit
for as much then as God gave them the
like gift as he did
to us who believed on the Lord Jesus
Christ what was I that I could withstand
God and this is again is why when when
Paul now meets up with him three years
later he is not going to resist Paul
because he's gotten the authorization of
this gospel to go to the Gentile world
when they heard these things they held
their peace and glorified God saying

then has God also to the Gentiles
granted repentance unto life and we'll
go into chapter 11 next week but I just
wanted to call out here that Peter is
very very clear about what the vision
means the vision means that Gentiles are
now being brought into the church and
and they must be welcomed and they
mustn't be called unclean so coming back
to Acts chapter 10 verse 37 that word I
say you know which was published
throughout all Judea again remember was
Jerusalem in all Judea and began from
Galilee after the baptism which Dawn
preached how God anointed Jesus of
Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with
power and went about doing good
that's what Jesus did I I'm just like I
don't know I'll have speechless at the
rejection of Jesus Christ how hot the
hatred of Jesus Christ how Christianity
is being denigrated and and all Jesus
did was good and and there's this hatred
toward Christ I don't understand it but
I do know that it's without a cause and
and I I'm sorry for people who hate
Christ and then we can only invite them
to repent and look at the life of this
man he only did good he went about doing
good and healing all that were oppressed
of the devil he released them from this
bondage for God was with him he only did
good and we are witnesses of all things
which he did both in the land of the
Jews and in Jerusalem whom they slew and
hung on a tree that had such a vile
hatred for him him God raised up the
third day according to the scriptures he
would the whole scriptures tell of
Christ's coming is death burial and
resurrection
and his return and so this is this is
exactly what the scripture is foretold
and it's exactly what happened they slew

and they hung them on the tree him God raised up the third day and showed him openly so this this was not done secretly wasn't in a cave it was openly everybody saw him crucified and then everybody over 500 brethren saw him not to all the people so not all the people but unto witnesses chosen before of God even to us - there are over 500 brethren saw him and specifically these apostles were called out to be witnesses who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead so we we lived with him and ate with him before he died then he was crucified and we were full of grief and three days later he came back to life and we actually ate with him and sat with him and talked with him and he was with them for 40 days and he commanded us to preach unto the people and to testify we are to be witnesses this is the whole point of the church to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the judge of the living and the dead so this whole life is about Jesus Christ and every single human being has to reconcile with Jesus Christ one way or another because God the Father has made him the judge of the living of the dead so notice he commanded us to preach unto the people we don't have a choice we're commanded to preach unto the people and to be witnesses to testify that it is he which God ordained to be judge of the quick and the dead and notice in John chapter 6 this is exactly what Jesus Christ said he came to do so as the creator he came into the creation and he and they were asking him you know what can we do to do the works of God and Jesus answered him in John 6:29 and said unto them this is the work of God that you believe on Him whom he has sent

so this is the work that Jesus Christ came to do that that he wanted the people to believe that he truly is the Savior but he has truly come to say them and that he is the judge of the the quick the living in the dead and so he now commands the church to do this very same work to testify of him back to Acts chapter 10 he commanded us to preach those people and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the judge of the quick to living on the dead to him give all the prophets witness so all true prophets also testify of Jesus Christ there is no true prophet that does not testify of Jesus Christ not just as another prophet but as the son of the Living God and as the righteous judge whom every knee shall bow to and every one shall give an answer to and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is the son of God so we can open up any prophet all the prophecies and they all point to Christ in fact I just read at the beginning of this study from Isaiah chapter 66 who was pointing to the return of Jesus Christ so all the prophets bear witness of Jesus Christ that through his name whoever believes in Him shall receive the remission of sins he's the Lamb that was slain from the beginning of the world so this wasn't something that God had to figure out later it's in the very foundation of the world he's as the world was being created the lamb was slain at the foundation of the world and so every prophet bears witness to the central role of Jesus Christ in the salvation and redemption of mankind while Peter yet spoke these words so so again we rushed ahead in chapter 11 but we're seeing it now while Peter was speaking these words the Holy Spirit

fell on them which heard the word so he's reaching these words to the Gentiles and while he's preaching the word they get the Holy Spirit it's like a Pentecost for Gentiles and they of the circumcision which believed were astonished this is like this is why Peter had to get this vision because this is just profound the Jews and then this is another thing the Jews were very familiar with the Holies it's in their history King David and others all had interactions with the Holy Spirit and so they knew of the Holy Spirit and now the church what Joel prophesied was that sons and daughters and everybody would receive the Holy Spirit so that happened on Pentecost but now what's happening is the Holy Spirit is going into Gentiles and they just cannot believe it they are astonished as many as came with Peter so these are the six brethren I believe it's he said came with him they just can't believe it because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit notice in on in Acts chapter two when the Jews received the Holy Spirit they spoke in tongues now the Gentiles are receiving the Holy Spirit and look at verse 46 for they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God they could actually understand what they were saying and they were magnifying God then answered Peter can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized which have received the Holy Spirit as well as us so so you know baptism is essential and we have sometimes people come into the dough to our congregations and they don't want to be baptized they claim they've already received the Holy Spirit they haven't repented of their sins they didn't even know what sin was we point

out to them what sin is we encourage them to repent and they don't want to be baptized but you need to repent you need to be baptized and you need to receive the Holy Spirit in this case this miraculous case they receive the Holy Spirit before they're baptized but Peter understands this is a requirement and so since you've already got the Holy Spirit is there anybody here that objects to me baptizing these people to make sure that all righteousness is fulfilled can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized which have received the Holy Spirit as well as us and he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord he commanded them this is a requirement you must do this he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord then prayed they him to tarry certain days so he's with cornea Cornelius the Centurion and they're asking

to return to Joppa to stay with them to fellowship with them and so he does that so I hope this is crystal crystal clear that we cannot just you know when we divide the Bible up into chapters and verses and books it just makes it very easy for us to go in and just pull out a verse out of thin air and make it mean whatever we want it to mean we have to read it in context and then again in the context with the intent why is Luke writing to Theophilus he's trying to author he's trying to defend or give evidence so that Theophilus can successfully defend the Apostle Paul's ministry they trying to show that the Apostle Paul's ministry is rooted in Jesus Christ and so this is a transition between the Jewish preaching of the gospel and also the preacher preaching of the gospel to the Gentiles to the

ends of the work items of the world
he's showing this transition and so Acts
chapter 9 10 and 11 are showing the
transition from from preaching to the
Jews to preaching to the Gentiles and I
think that's why when when Luke
introduces Paul he then goes back to
Peter to show in parallel while Paul is
beginning his ministry Peter is being
shown not to call any man common or
unclean that God has pronounced clean
and God gave them the Holy Spirit and
it's like okay is anybody gonna forbid
me baptizing them there they're a part
of the church and this is now the
beginning of the Gentiles coming into
the church and this is going to create
all kinds of problems that are that that
are affecting us to this day and we need
to understand very clearly what the
church is what the church believes how
these Gentiles are being grafted into
into the church it's not becoming a
Gentile Church and unfortunately that's
what we have with a lot of Christianity
today it's a Gentile Church they've sort
of hijacked the church from its Hebrew
Hebraic roots and we need to come back
to the scriptures and understand exactly
what is the church what are the
attributes of the true church and ensure
that we're not following the traditions
of men because God condemned the
Pharisees for taking their traditions
and and making them a higher priority
than the commandments of God the true
church will always put the commandments
higher than the Word of God so I'm sure
that if you are you know traditional
Christian some of the things that I've
said may upset you may offend you that's
not my intent I certainly do though want
to challenge you and I hope you'll
challenge me as well to look at the Word

of God and believe the Word of God and we will now go to a chat session again if you look down here at the first URL CGI'd org slash webcast that's where we have our after a Bible study chat and if you have questions about unclean and clean meats and whether or not you still feel that you're okay to eat some of the things that you're eating that the Bible strictly prohibits we're happy to talk about that so until next week good night