

Sermon Title: "The Gospel Expands"
Date: November 27, 2022 - Acts 10:23-48

Central Idea: Anyone who trusts Jesus is welcome to His family, the Church. Do you believe that anyone can be saved?

Introduction: For Peter, the Jew, to enter a Gentile dwelling was a distinct breach of custom. Even though he was now a Christian, Peter made it clear that he would never have violated his Jewish practices without a vision from God. Happily, Peter was not so enslaved to his traditions that he was insensitive to further light. When Cornelius explained that he too had received a divine message, it was obvious that God had brought both parties together.

I. The Preaching of the Word vv. 24-43

1. The Meeting vv. 23-29
2. The Problem vv. 30-33
3. The Proclamation vv. 34-43

Peter responds, emphasizing three special points:

- (1) God's character vv. 34-35
- (2) God's love vv. 36-41
- (3) God's gospel vv. 42-43

II. The Proof of the Holy Spirit vv. 44-48

1. Witnessing to the truth v. 44
2. Bestowing power vv. 45-46
3. Receiving the Holy Spirit vv. 47-48a
4. Creating fellowship v. 48b

Conclusion: God confirmed this enlarged vision with a receptive Cornelius and signs following his conversion—an experience that led to new commitment. Peter did not get to complete his sermon. They believed and were saved. What a great way to finish a sermon!