

## Acts 9:32-10:23a

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 3-15-17

### III. Foundations for World Mission (6:8-12:24)

- A. Stephen the martyr (6:8-7:60)
- B. Philip the evangelist (8:1-40)
- C. The conversion of Saul (9:1-31)
- D. The conversion of Cornelius (9:32-11:18)**
- E. Expansion and opposition (11:19-12:24)

#### The Conversion of Cornelius - Introduction

Key conversions in Luke's narrative (Saul and Cornelius)

Shift in v. 32?

3 \_\_\_\_\_ stories portray different forms of confrontation:

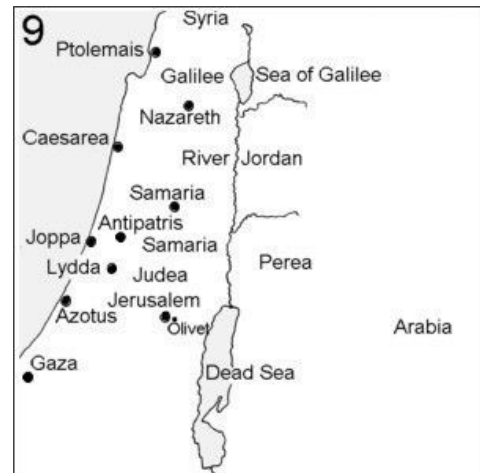
- 9:32-32 - Aeneas/Tabitha - confrontation with disease and death
- 10:1-11 - Cornelius - confrontation with Gentile alienation
- 12 - Herod - confrontation with political tyranny

#### Peter Heals Aeneas and Raises Tabitha - 9:32-43

Aeneas (Lydda) in v. 33 - Bedridden eight years, paralyzed

Tabitha (Joppa) in v. 36ff. - "a disciple...who was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did,"

- V. 39 - made undergarments and outer clothing for the needy
- V. 37 - became sick and died



Purpose of these miracles: Portraying Peter as an authentic

\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 12:12; cf. Elijah/Elisha 1 Kings 17:17-24; 2 Kings 4:32-37)

- Followed the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus
  - Aeneas: Acts 9:34b-35 and Mark 2
  - Tabitha: Acts 9:40-42 and Mark 5
- Performed by the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (vv. 34, 40)
- Were signs of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus
  - Verb in vv. 34, 40 ("Get up!") = verb used of God raising Jesus from the dead
  - The recovery from paralysis and resuscitation = visible signs of Peter's apostolicity AND of the new life offered by the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!
- Led to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (vv. 35, 42)

**Peter is Sent for by Cornelius - 10:1-8**

9:43 - in Joppa with a tanner?

Cornelius

- Stationed in Caesarea (see map) - garrison city, administrative capital of province of Judea
- A centurion of the Italian cohort (regimen) - 600 men each
- 10:2 - "A devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually"
- V. 22 - respected by all the Jews, but had not become one.

Concerning the impassable gulf that separated Jews from the Gentiles

- Ephesians 2 double alienation and dividing wall
- Gentiles as "dogs" - No association (v. 28)
- Jews and the Samaritans (ch.8), now Jews and the Gentiles

Vv. 3-8 - Cornelius' vision

**Peter Receives a Vision - 10:9-23a**

Review the sequence of events

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Whole narrative is a beautiful example of divine \_\_\_\_\_

Principle subject of Luke's narrative: Conversion of Cornelius, or the conversion of \_\_\_\_\_?