



Understanding Salvation Based on the Life of Cornelius

John 10:1-30

I. WHO IS CORNELIUS – v. 1-7

A. His Title and Character

1. He is a centurion of the Italian Regiments
2. He is Devout, God-fearing, Generous, and Prayerful.

B. His encounter with an Angel

1. An Angel of the Lord appeared to him and said Cornelius!
2. Cornelius replied in fear and said “What is Lord?”
3. The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

C. His Action after the Encounter

1. Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier and sent them to Joppa.

II. AT THIS POINT, IS CORNELIUS SAVE?

A. If the answer is YES

1. Why did the Angel tell him to fetch Peter?
2. Who is Peter?
3. What does Peter do?

Peter is one of the twelve Disciples chosen by Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel. **Acts 2** “**Day of Pentecost, 3,000 got saved through Peter’s preaching.**”

- B. If the answer is NO,
1. Possible then that a person can be as good as Cornelius yet not saved.
 2. It is also possible that God will answer your prayers even if you are not saved.

III. HOW CAN A PERSON BE SAVED?

- A. **Ephesians 2:8** “For it is by grace have been saved, through faith and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - - ⁹ by works, so that no one can boast.
- B. **Romans 10:9** That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.
- C. What kind of Faith?
1. It is the Faith that comes by hearing the Words of Christ.
Romans 9:17
 2. What is Christ’s Word?
John 3:16-18; John 10:10; John 11:25
 - a. **It is the Word of Life**
John 6:63 The spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.
 - b. **It is the Word of Truth (John 14:6)**
Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with seal, the promised Holy Spirit

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

c. ***It is the Word of Freedom (John 8:32)***

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a **way out** so that you can stand up under it.

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

D. **How can the Word of Christ be heard?**

Romans 10:14-15 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

IV. DID CORNELIUS HEAR THE WORD OF CHRIST?

- A. Yes, Cornelius and his household heard the Word of Christ through Peter.
- B. **Acts 10:42** "He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as Judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins of through His Name."

V. RESULTS AFTER CORNELIUS HEARD THE WORD OF CHRIST.

- A. **The Holy Spirit came on them.**

Acts 10:44 “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.”

B. They were Filled with Holy Spirit

Acts 10:45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

C. They were Baptized in the Name of Jesus

Acts 10:47 Then Peter said, “Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have. 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

D. Cornelius did not receive salvation while he was doing good works. He and his household received salvation after they heard the Word of Christ preached to them by Peter.

VI. HOW TO RECEIVE SALVATION?

A. **Romans 10:13** “for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

B. **Romans 10:9** That if you **confess with your mouth**, “Jesus is Lord,” and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you **believe and are justified** and it is with your mouth that you **confess and are saved**.

Scriptures for further reflections:

Titus 3:3-7
II Timothy 1:8-12