

## LESSON 22 - PETER CROSSES OVER TO GENTILE BYWAY

### Acts 10

**THEME:** *To show the differences and the similarities in Peter's and Paul's gospels.*

If you look at an orange and a mango, how many ways can you name in which these fruits are different? In color? in taste? in shape? In how many ways are they alike or similar? Both are round, both are fruits, both are good to eat, etc. Today we are going to see how Peter's gospel (good news) differed from Paul's gospel. We shall also see that they were alike in some ways.

Peter was still enjoying his office as Traffic Director on KINGDOM HIGHWAY, but Peter was under the Law and directing only one kind of people into the Kingdom: *the Jews*, Acts 15:1 and Acts 21:20. He was proving his authority by miracles and signs. Peter was lodging at Joppa by the sea in the house of Simon, a tanner. In the city of Caesarea, a devout man, a Roman Gentile soldier named Cornelius, was praying and desiring to know more about the God of Israel, so God sent Peter to Cornelius. We read about this event in Acts 10:1-33.

With Cornelius Peter crossed over to GENTILE BYWAY. God was giving Peter the opportunity to use the keys of the KINGDOM for the Gentiles as well as the Jews. Peter opened his mouth and preached Jesus to him. He explained how God did not prefer certain persons, but that in the KINGDOM those who *worked righteousness* would be accepted by God and blessed through the message sent to the children of Israel. Acts 10:34-36.

Peter's message was that Christ was Lord of all; that John had introduced Jesus with baptism; that Christ proved Himself to be God by the mighty miracles He did; that He had been crucified; that He had been raised up the third day; that Christ had shown Himself openly to chosen ones and had commanded them to preach to the people; that He was to be the Judge of the living and the dead; that whoever believed in Him should receive remission of sins. Acts 10:37-43.

While Peter was speaking these words to Cornelius' household, the Holy Spirit fell on all them which heard the Word. The Jews were amazed because the Holy Spirit was poured out on Gentiles who also spoke in tongues and magnified God. Peter commanded them to be baptised with water. Peter had been used by God to open the door so the other disciples

would know that God now approved sending the good news to the Gentiles.

Today we live at GRACE AIRPORT. We realize that there are some things different in the messages of Peter and Paul. God tells us that we are to distinguish /recognize the things that differ. Philippians 1:10. We are told to rightly divide the Word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15.

#### DIFFERENCES

1. Peter was sent to Cornelius because he worked righteousness and was good to the Jews. Acts 10:2,35. But Paul was given the Gospel of Grace for us Gentiles because we were hopelessly lost sinners. Romans 3:10-18, Romans 5:8,10.
2. Those who were saved by Peter's gospel spoke in tongues which were given for a sign. Paul says that tongues will pass away. 1 Corinthians 13:8.
3. Peter baptised with water to be saved. Mark 16:15-16. Paul says: "Christ sent me *not* to baptise." 1 Corinthians 1:17. Our baptism today is that which the Holy Spirit performs in making us members of the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:13.
4. Peter preached the Law, but Paul preached that Gentiles were not under the Law, but under grace. Romans 6:14.

#### SIMILARITIES

1. Both Peter and Paul preached forgiveness of sins through faith in Christ. Acts 10:43, Romans 3:22.
2. Both had a worldwide ministry: Peter for the establishing of the Kingdom; Paul for the calling out of the heavenly Body of Christ. Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 5:19.
3. Both promise the return of Christ: Peter tells of His coming to earth as King; Paul tells of His coming in the air to gather the Body to Himself. Acts 3:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

Peter preached to none but the Jews only until God revealed that He was no respecter of persons. It was given to Paul to show the full truth of the complete breaking down of all differences. Ephesians 2:14. Now God wants us to see that people of all colours and races need to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ, without religious works.

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15.

## LESSON 22 - WORK SHEET

Peter preached the Gospel (means good news) of the KINGDOM, whereas Paul was called to preach the Gospel (good news) of the BODY OF CHRIST. The aim of this lesson is to show the differences and the similarities of the two messages. Fill in the references given and you will see the differences. This lesson illustrates our memory verse which tells us to *rightly divide the word of truth*.

### DIFFERENCES

| PETER                                      | PAUL  |
|--|---|
| 1.-2.Sent to Cornelius because he<br>_____ | Sent to Gentiles because they<br>_____              |
| Acts 10:35                                 | Romans 5:8  |
| 3.-4.Those saved spoke with<br>_____       | Says that tongues<br>_____                          |
| Acts 10:46                                 | 1 Corinthians 13:8                                  |
| 5.-6.Baptised with _____<br>Acts 10:47     | Says he was not sent to _____<br>1 Corinthians 1:17 |

### SIMILARITIES

7.-8.Fill in the blanks below and you will see how the messages of Peter and Paul were alike in many ways.

Both preached forgiveness of sins through \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 10:43, Romans 3:22.

Both had a ministry for all the \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 5:19. Peter for establishing the Kingdom; Paul for the calling out of the Body of Christ.

Both have a promise of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. Acts 3:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17. Peter tells of Christ's coming as King; Paul tells of Christ's coming as the Head to catch away the Body of Christ.

9. You are an Ambassador of Christ. How do you tell people to be saved? Write the Scripture references you would use: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Write from memory 2 Timothy 2:15. \_\_\_\_\_