



**April 30-May 6, 2017**

**Text: Acts 10:1-23**

**ACTS-ION: The Dynamic Life  
of Christ's Church - Then and Now**

**SUMMARY OF "SERMON":** A major shift orchestrated by the Holy Spirit will change the direction of the early Church (and the rest of the book of Acts). The gospel of Jesus Christ is for the Gentiles who put faith in Him as well as Jewish believers. The Holy Spirit uses an unusual vision to help Peter see this truth so that Peter then leads Cornelius, a Gentile, and his household to faith in Christ.

**RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK** [This week's Bible readings are about major shifts in God's working with His people.]

*Monday, May 8* – **Acts 2:1-13** [The wait is over (Acts 1:4). The Holy Spirit comes upon the initial group of Christians with lots of manifestations and empowers them for ministry. This promise (Acts 2:39) is for all subsequent believers in Christ as well.]

*Tuesday, May 9* – **Genesis 12:1-9** [God's call upon Abram to follow the true God and to go to the land of Canaan is a watershed event. Abram believed God and became the father ultimately to all who trust in Jesus Christ (cf. Romans 4).]

*Wednesday, May 10* – **Luke 22:7-30** [At the Last Supper, Jesus revealed that He is bringing a "new" covenant which will be accomplished through His shed blood in atoning sacrifice. This covenant will be linked with the kingdom of God, a much higher concept than the kingdom of Israel under God.]

*Thursday, May 11* – **Exodus 3:1-15** [Another watershed event in the OT as God calls Moses through the strange manifestation of a burning bush to lead the Israelites out of bondage and into freedom.]

*Friday, May 12* – **Galatians 3:1-14** [The Galatian Church had started well but then was misled by the Judaizers, those who insisted that Gentile followers of Christ, like the Galatians, had to follow the Jewish law as well. That was a 'blind spot' that the Holy Spirit had clearly shown was not true. Paul appeals to the Galatians to live by the Spirit.]

*Saturday, May 13* – **Ezekiel 37:1-14** [One of the more dramatic visions in the OT is the vision of dry bones that Ezekiel saw. This represented Israel after the fall of Jerusalem and the exile. But God is showing that through Messiah Israel will be brought back to life, a life which will even include Gentile believers.]



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