

CHANGED LIVES

Lesson 8

CORNELIUS:

Acts 10:1-8

Acts 10:9-23

Acts 10:24-48

Did you notice:

Cornelius: means "horn"

Acts 10:1-8 Cornelius was a Roman Centurion. Over 50 to 100 men and one of 10 Centurions in the cohort. Centurions were leaders who were known for holding their ground regardless of the situation. They were regarded as the "backbone" of the army.

Cornelius was God-fearing. Quietly went about life and living his faith. Those of "his household" included family as well as servants. Accepted many of the teachings of the Jewish faith but had not become a proselyte (still considered "Gentile" by the Jews). God has selected him for a special purpose and gives instructions to bringing Peter to Caesarea. He sends 3 who are very close to him and explains all that has happened.

Acts 10:9-23 Cornelius' two servants and soldier arrived looking for Peter. They travelled the 30 miles overnight. They testify to Cornelius being deserving and how God has given instructions for Peter to go and speak with him.

Acts 10:24-48 Peter and company take more than a day to make the 30 mile journey. Cornelius has taken the time to gather family and friends to hear what this man would have to say.

Cornelius humbles himself before Peter. God pours out His Spirit upon Cornelius and others who heard the message. They were immediately immersed and Peter went on to spend some more time teaching them.

Cornelius has gone from a man in a multitude who believed and tried to do right... to one who followed ALL the way God led him and was rewarded with a notoriety that has lasted millenium. His belief, was accompanied by action (sending servants for Peter, gathering a houseful and following through with obedience).

What Lessons can you learn for your personal walk with Jesus?