

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

November 29, 2020

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:15-25

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *The Chattering of the Scattering* (Acts 11:19-23)

Blest Be The Tie

Announcements:

Use Christmas! While we respect Christians who want nothing to do with Christmas, Pastor Stam always said to *use* Christmas to enclose gospel tracts in Christmas cards and give Pauline literature to God's people. See *Berean Bible Society's* web site for a full price list for both, including quantity pricing for many copies of the same title or tract.

Flu shots: If the boss requires you to get one, and you don't want one, Pastor can write you a religious exemption letter.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone
Acts 11:1-18 *The Rehearsal of the Reversal*

The Jews had been receiving God's word for 1500 years, but now the Gentiles had received it (v.1). You'd think the 12 apostles would have been happy about that, but they gave Peter grief about sharing the Word with Gentiles (v.2,3). They knew Gentiles weren't *supposed* to receive the Word until "every one" of the Jews was turned from his iniquities (Acts 3:25,26). They thought Peter had committed a *serious* sin, so they "contended" with him (Acts 11:3), a word that's only used in *serious* matters (Nehemiah 13:11,17; 13:25).

But that was only because they didn't know God had *sent* Peter to that Gentile. They had no clue God was *reversing* His policy of not allowing His people in Israel to fraternize with Gentiles, but they found out from Peter's rehearsal of it

"Rehearsal" (Acts 11:4) means *to repeat* (ISam.17:31). Peter is about to repeat *everything God told him* when He sent him to Cornelius. Since Peter's brethren asked him to explain himself, he "expounded" what happened (Acts 11:4), a word that means *explained* (cf. Mark 4:34). "In order" (Acts 11:4) means he gave a step-by-step rehearsal of God's reversal.

And the reason God included Peter's repetition of what happened is that Acts 10 is so significant the Bible repeats it as it does with the story of Saul's conversion in Acts 9,22,26.

The reason God told Peter that unclean animals were no longer unclean was to introduce Peter to the dispensational change He made when He cleansed *the Gentiles* and saved Paul and *sent him* to the Gentiles. Peter accepted this change, but when *you* try to introduce men to the Bible's dispensational changes, they often say God never changes (Mal.3:6). Take believers like that here to Acts 10,11 to show them that *God* never changes, but *His rules* often change.

Not the rules based on the principles of morality and righteousness, like the laws against lying, stealing, etc. But the sabbath law *was* changed because that was a temporary, *artificial* rule that God made to illustrate how someday believers could *rest* in Christ (Mt.11:28). But when you tell your 7th Day Adventist friends we are not under the law of the sabbath (Rom.6:15), they often point out the sabbath *preceded* the law (Gen.2:2,3). But we know that no one before Moses was told to *keep* the sabbath because Nehemiah 9:13,14 says that God *made known* the sabbath to Moses when He gave him the law.

God told Peter *three times* that unclean animals were no longer unclean (Acts 11:10) to make sure he made the connection that *Gentiles* were no longer unclean when 3 Gentiles knocked on his door (v.11). But in case he missed it, the Spirit spoke up and told him to go with them (v.12).

When the angel told Cornelius that Peter would tell him words to help him get saved (v.13,14), that shows Cornelius was saved into the kingdom program, for the kingdom gospel of Acts 2:38 is the only gospel Peter knew. But before he could talk about how men had to be baptized to be saved, the Spirit interrupted him (Acts 11:15). We know that that's what he was *about* to say for it says he was interrupted as he "began" to speak, but he'd already spoken 225 words! It must mean he began to speak *the gospel*, but was interrupted.

All of that made Peter think of how the Lord said water baptism was just a means to receiving the Spirit (Acts 11:16). How would that help him make sense of what was happen-ing? Well, when people were trying to figure out why Paul was going to the Gentiles before every one of the Jews was saved, he quoted verses that talked about how the Gentiles were *supposed* to be saved through the Jews that God sent Christ to (Rom.15:8-12). That's not how it was happening, it was happening through Paul instead. But it was happen-ing, so who cares? And when the Lord said men had to be baptized before being saved, that wasn't how it happened with Cornelius, but it happened, so who cares?

Peter's brethren *rejoiced* when they heard about this dispensational change (Acts 11:18), as believers always should. Later we'll see that *unsaved* Jews *didn't* receive this change, and tried to make the Gentiles be circumcised and keep the law. That means when believers today *don't* rejoice when you show them dispensational changes, *they're acting like unbelievers*. But don't be smug. You do too when you sin!

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

November 29, 2020

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church

560 East Sauk Trail

Steger, Illinois 60475

708-758-7780

Pastor Ricky Kurth
414-719-0548 (cell)
Pastorkurth @msn.com