



ACTS

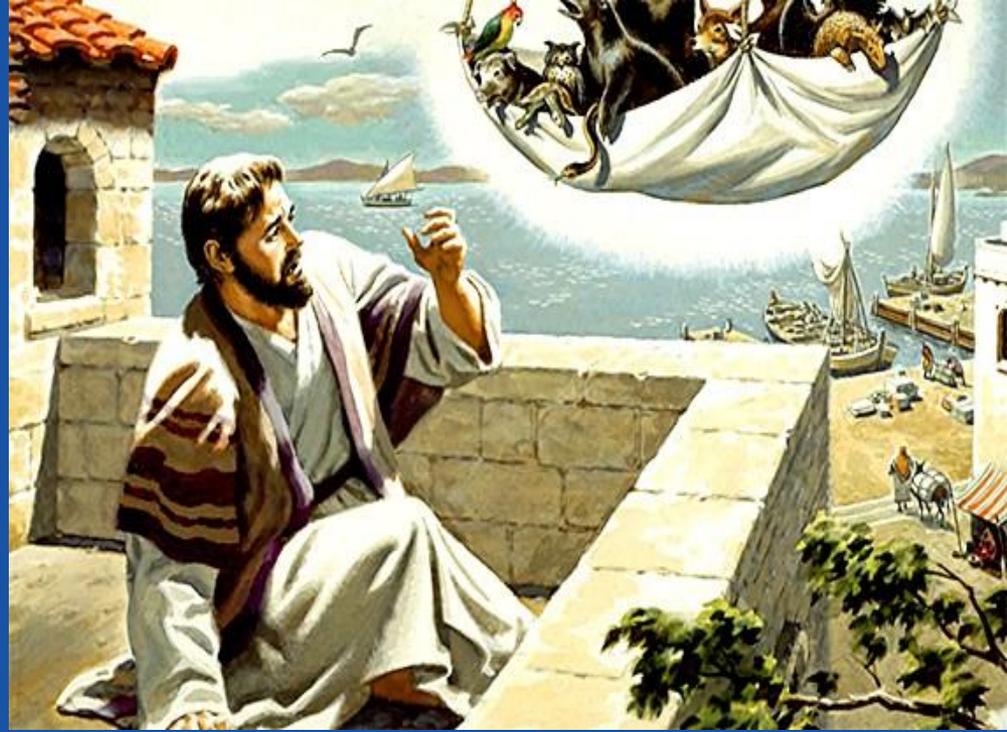
CHAPTER 10

- Issue of the 4 legged animals and other creatures is complex
- Poor interpretations over the centuries because:
 - 1) doctrinal bias that ignores plain meaning of passages
 - 2) Lack of knowledge about Judaism, Synagogues, and *Halakhah* in general



THE VISION AS PARABLE

- F. F. Bruce: “...*vision is a parable of the divine cleansing of human beings...*”
- Yeshua’s Parable of The 10 Virgins Matt. 25
- Using commonly understood characters and objects to concoct a memorable story
- People and objects are symbolic of something else



DOCTRINE TRUMPS TRUTH ?

- Parable of 10 virgins isn't about virgins and lamps
- Peter's Parable isn't about animals for food
- F.F. Bruce does an about-face: *“yet....a connection between abrogation offood laws and....gentiles..”*
- Bruce allowed his predetermined doctrine to trump Scriptural truth
- Parable of the Sower isn't about seeds and rocks
- Matthew 5:17 - 19



SPIRITUAL STATUS

HOLY

HAGIOS

COMMON

KOINOS

UNCLEAN

AKATHARTOS

HOLY FOOD



FOR PRIESTS ONLY

CHULLIN FOOD

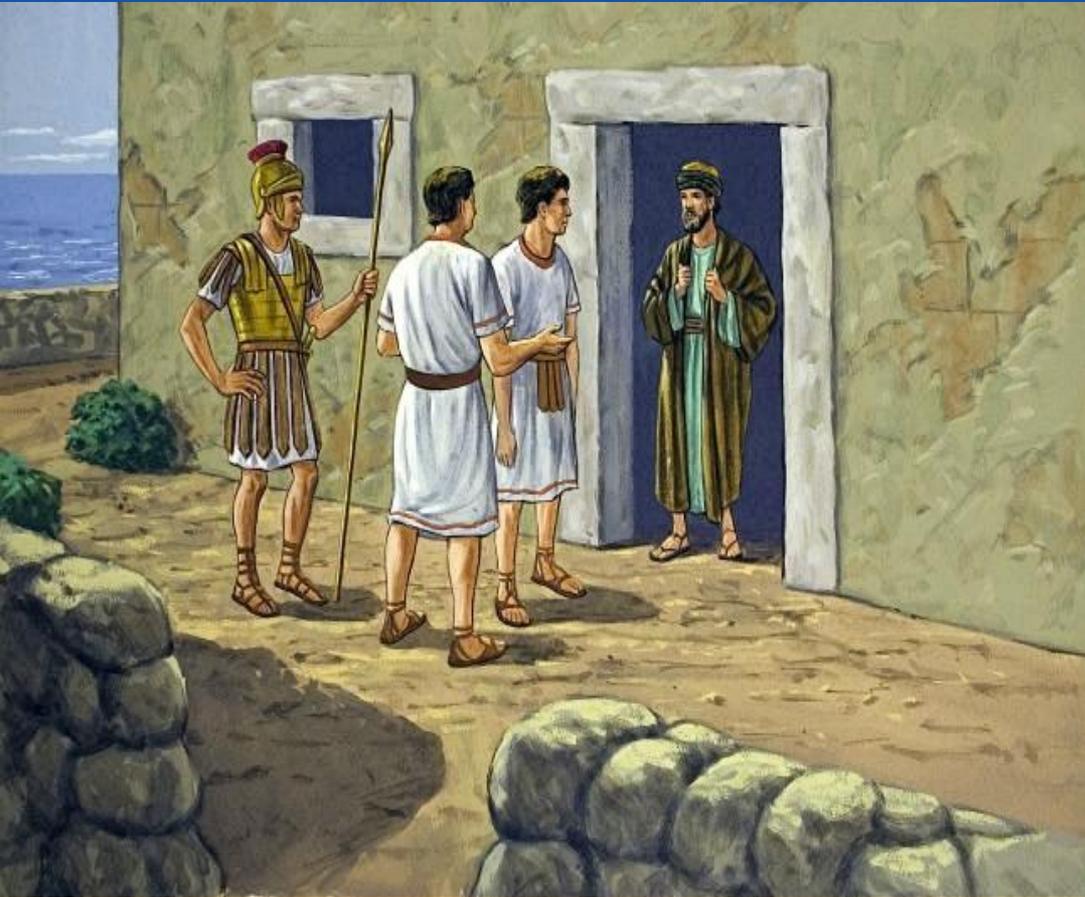


FOR REGULAR JEWS

COMMON FOOD

**NO SUCH THING
AS COMMON
FOOD**

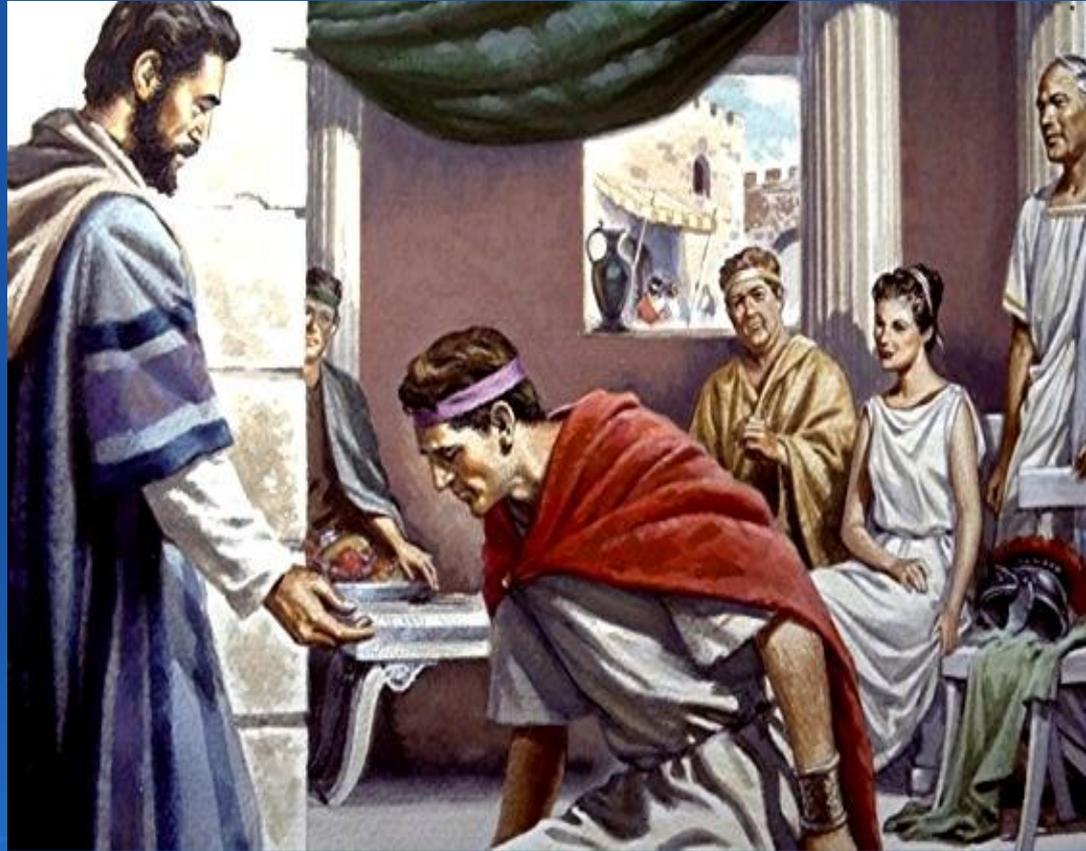
CORNELIUS'S MEN FIND PETER



- Peter was bewildered because non-food terms used in the vision
- Holy Spirit tells Peter it is OK to go with these men
- God-fearer = gentile who worships YHWH, but is not circumcised
- Only due to Peter's vision and instruction from the Spirit did Peter consent to go with them

CORNELIUS WELCOMES PETER

- Peter had no idea what God was up to!
- Gentiles seen as unclean by Jews due to Synagogue teachings
- Torah does NOT condemn gentiles as “unclean”
- God says gentiles are spiritually “common”, not unclean
- 6 Believers go with Peter to Caesarea
- Cornelius prostrates himself before Peter



THE PROBLEM WITH GENTILES



- Peter explains the ritual purity problem to Cornelius's family
- *"You yourselves know how unlawful for a Jew to associate or visit any one of another nation.."*
- ***athemitos*** = illicit, breaks law code
- Peter is talking about ***Halakhah***, not the Law of Moses
- Being a God-fearer did not change Cornelius's ritual purity status according to Judaism

HOLY

SANCTIFIED

The NATURAL state

COMMON AND CLEAN

DEFILED

MIDDLE GROUND

UN-CLEAN



ELEVATION TO HOLY

- Gentiles who accepted Christ could be elevated to holyas gentiles!
- Always had been an option for gentiles to be elevated to holy.....but until now they had to become Hebrews
- Most members of The Way did not see how a Believer could be legitimate without circumcision, and thus becoming a Jew
- Not unlike much of Christianity that says a Jew must leave their Jewishness to be saved in Christ

